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HONG KONG, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1948.

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REDS PASS HSUCHOW, STRIKE SOUTH

Decisive Battle Expected; Sun Fo Named Premier

Threat To Pengpu

Liberal Trend Seen

Nanking, November 26.

The civil war moved with dramatic suddenness to little more than 100 miles of Nanking today when Communist forces under General Chen Yi, by-passing Hsuehchow, struck Southward in the direction of Pengpu, near where a decisive battle is expected to develop within the next few days, all reports received here agreed today.

While pro-Government despatches said that heavy fighting has already flared up along a 40-mile front between Suhien and Linpi to the South East, independent sources confirmed that General Chen Yi's main force was now pushing into Northern Anhwei beyond Suhien.

Reports indicated that the position of Hsuehchow in the present phase of the Central China battle has been relegated to the background by the

Nanking, November 26.

Dr. Sun Fo, aged 53, scholarly politician son of the father of the Chinese Republic, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, and now President of the Legislative Yuan, today was appointed Prime Minister in succession to Mr. Wang Wen-hao who resigned upon failure of his August 19 currency reform programme.

Simultaneously, the appointment of the former Premier, General Chang Chun, who is President Chiang Kai-shek's first choice as successor to the outgoing Mr. Wang, as Secretary-General of the highest policy organ, the Central Political Council, also was announced today. He replaces the late Mr. Chen Pu-lei.

With two usually considered liberal Kuomintang leaders heading China's two top organs a more liberal trend in Chinese politics is generally expected to begin.

new Communist move, with three Nationalist Army Corps under General Chen Ching-chuan, Li Mi and Sun Yuan-lung, pinned down to the defensive there.

In support of General Chen Yi's bid to blast a short route to the capital, one Communist column on the Grand Canal front advanced Southward today to Suining on the Eastern flank of Suhien, from where they are expected to start the march on Pengpu, while another Communist army was said to be streamlining the way along a fighting line running from Tangshan, West of Hsuehchow, down to Suhien.

Opposing the Communist forces below Suhien are Nationalist troops commanded by General Li Yuen-shan, with three other Army Corps under Generals Huang Wei, Chang Chen and Hu Lien, moving up in a North Easly direction from Hsuehchow to intercept the Communist Southward advance towards Pengpu.

Separate HQ

The Minister of National Defence was reported to have set up a separate Command Headquarters at Pengpu and deployed strong forces in that area to check further Communist progress beyond Suhien.

At the same time, two Government armies under General Li Tien-shan, are said to be digging in around Nanking for a last ditch stand if the Communists should succeed in sweeping Southward across the Yangtze.

Shanghai press reports said that Government warplanes, braving unfavourable weather, were again in action throughout today over the Hsuehchow front.

Low-flying fighters were said to have wiped out several Communist concentrations and gun positions.

Shanghai reports also said that Government naval cruisers off the Shanghai coast were engaged in a gun duel with Communist forces in the harbour area of Weishan, and destroyed more than 50 Communist boats.

Nationalist naval units have been patrolling the Gulf of Chilli to prevent possible infiltration into Northern Shantung by Communists under General Phio's Command in Manchuria.—Reuter.

THE WEATHER

The anti-cyclone which appeared to be stationary and centred over Lake Baikal, dominates China, Japan and neighbouring seas. Pressure is relatively low in a trough extending from the S. part of the China Sea Eastwards to the Caroline.

Today's Forecast—Moderate Easterly winds, fresh at times of shore, cloudy with drizzle or light rain mainly over night and early morning.

Yesterday's Weather—Maximum 72.9 deg. Fah. Minimum 63.8 deg. Fah. Sunshine 2.5 hours. Rainfall Nil. Total since Jan. 1—263.6 mm. 24.1 in. no wettest an average of 212.5 mm.—22.5 in.

Readings at 10 a.m.
Baro. at sea level 1013.0
Therm. 64.0
Humidity 82
Wind direction ENE
Wind force 2
Tide time 11.15
High 0.0
Low 0.0

Full U.S. Aid To China Means End To ERP, Journalist Believes

London, November 26.

Full United States aid to China must mean good-bye to the Marshall Plan, good-bye to American assistance to the Western Union, Mr. Christopher Buckley, the well known journalist, asserted in the independent weekly, Time and Tide.

"Britain, France and Benelux would, under these circumstances, have to depend upon their own resources to finance recovery and rearmament simultaneously," Mr. Buckley, European and former chief war correspondent of the Conservative Daily Telegraph, continued.

Russians See Split In West

Berlin, November 25.

The joint move made by Great Britain and France in the Berlin crisis without the approval of the United States indicated a serious split in the Western Allied front against the Soviet Union, the Soviet newspaper, Tagliche Rundschau, said today.

The paper was referring to the fact that Britain and France were today submitting to Dr. Bismullah, the President of the Security Council, and the unofficial mediator in the East-West German dispute, a Berlin currency control memorandum drawn up by the Western Military Governors early in September.

The Americans are not supporting the memorandum because they have not agreed with some of its technical clauses.

While British and French experts were prepared to make identical replies to the questions put to them by Dr. Bismullah, American experts were willing to reply in general terms only, Tagliche Rundschau said.

The Anglo-French partners for months past have been in secret conflict with the negative American attitude but it has only now been brought into the open, the paper contended.—Reuter.

SIAM CABINET RESIGNATIONS

Bangkok, November 26.

Fifteen members of the Siamese Government have resigned to facilitate a Cabinet reorganisation, the Prime Minister, Marshal Pibul Songgram, announced today.

Among the 16 is the Defence Minister, Lieutenant General Luang Chakrakrob.

The Foreign Minister, Major General Prince Pridi Domyong, and Prot Sarasin, his Deputy, now in the United States, are among the nine who have not resigned.

Field Marshal Songgram said he hoped to announce the new appointments next week.—Reuter.

Giant Liner To Sail For U.S. Today

Southampton, November 25.

Following the settlement of the New York longshoremen's strike the Cunard White Star head office announced this afternoon that the liner Queen Elizabeth will definitely sail from Southampton on Sunday morning.

The Parthia will sail from Liverpool on Sunday afternoon and the Queen Mary will leave Southampton on Wednesday morning.

Passengers smiled with relief as they streamed from all parts of the 83,000-ton Queen Elizabeth today to read the chalked announcement outside the purser's office. They had been held up to do so would hasten to make the best terms it could with the Soviet Union.

"Whatever course is adopted, it is clear that we in the West must stiffen the sinews and summon up the blood to meet the next menace," Mr. Buckley concluded, "for it will not be long in coming."

The Conservative Spectator commented that even the most favourable American response to Nanking's desperate appeals can in practice make little difference to the outcome of the civil war, which the Communists seem bound to win on points even if they cannot secure a knockout decision.

The Socialist New Statesman and Nation said that it is clear that the Western powers will soon be faced with the need to negotiate de facto relationships with the Communists in the whole area North of the Yangtze and in Shanghai.—Reuter.

STRIKE CUTS GAS IN AUSTRALIA

Melbourne, November 26.

Gas for industry in the State of Victoria will be banned from midnight tonight after the Communist-led Boomer's Union decision last week to stop colliers from leaving Australian ports for Victoria.—Reuter.

Assembly Rules On S.W. Africa

Paris, November 26.

The United Nations General Assembly today adopted by 44 votes to two with five abstentions the Trusteeship Committee's recommendation that under the care of the United Nations rather than under the sole guardianship of South Africa.

Before the Assembly voted on the resolution dealing with South Africa's refusal to put South West Africa under trusteeship, Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, the Indian delegate, declared that statements by the South African Premier provided conviction that annexation is imminent, by whatever name it may be called—a reference to the Union's plans for closer association with the Territory.

She declared that unless timely measures were taken, the rights of the people of South West Africa were threatened with extinction.

"The natives of the Territory have today no political rights and no political representation," she contended.—Reuter.

Rice Supplies For Shanghai

Shanghai, November 26.

A further improvement in the rice supply situation here is expected with the arrival this afternoon of 5,000 tons of cargo from Bangkok, procured by the China Mission of the Economic Co-operation Administration.

The latest shipment is due to arrive late today when the American vessel, China Mission, docks here with part of further rice shipments being rushed here by the ECA for local distribution to ease the food crisis.

Shanghai also expects a large shipment of coal from North China next month totalling almost 300,000 tons. In exchange Shanghai will send commodities, including foodstuffs.—Reuter.

Communists Tear Up Road



Communist demonstrators break up the roadway to release paving blocks during a demonstration in the Champs Elysees, in Paris, recently. They throw a barricade across the famous roadway and held the road for two hours in the face of strong police opposition. The stones torn up were used as ammunition, and several people were injured in the fracas.—AP Photo.

Britons Not To Leave Canton For Colony, Consul-General Says

Canton, November 26.

A clarification regarding the movement of British nationals from Canton to Hong Kong was made by the Consul-General, Mr. G. F. Tyrrell, today.

He stated that the movement of British evacuees from Canton to Hong Kong applied only to those passing through Canton, adding that no actual resident British nationals in Canton are being moved.

The Consul-General said: "In the course of reporting the arrival of Hong Kong evacuees in Canton, a news agency message carried by the Hong Kong newspapers said that a British Consul official had stated that 'they were making arrangements to move British nationals out of Canton as quickly as possible into Hong Kong.'"

"As this statement is ambiguous, the Consul-General wishes it to be known that there is no intention whatever of an evacuation of Hong Kong of British nationals actually resident in Canton."

"Any plans made for a speedy movement of evacuees from Canton to Hong Kong apply only to those British nationals passing through Canton on their way to the British Colony."—Reuter.

Draughtsmen Of Dockyard On Strike

Refusal of the management to meet their demand for salary increases led to more than 35 draughtsmen of the Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, going out on strike at 4 p.m. yesterday.

Employed in the Drawing Office of the company, the strikers asked for a 125 per cent increase on the basic salary of \$200 a month and a 50 per cent boost on the amount above the basic pay.

The first hint of a strike threat came on November 3 when the workers sent a letter with their demands to the management, the "China Mail" was reliably informed last night.

On November 18 another note, reiterating their requests, was sent in. Both, it was stated, were unanswered.

The workers sent in an ultimatum on November 24, at 4 p.m. in which they declared that should the management refuse to meet their demands within 48 hours, they would walk out.

According to the sources, the management sent for the representative half an hour after receiving the ultimatum.

The ensuing discussion, however, did not bring any result. At 4 p.m. yesterday, more than 35 draughtsmen walked out when no reply was received.

It was understood last night that about 40 workers in the same office will go on strike should no settlement be achieved today.

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Shipping Strikes End; Work May Start Next Week

San Francisco, November 26.

Terms for settling waterfront strikes on East and West coasts today cleared the way for early resumption of normal American shipping.

Negotiators in the 86-day CIO longshore strike on the Pacific coast announced settlement terms last night. Earlier in the day, negotiators agreed on peace in the 17-day strike of AFL longshoremen on the Atlantic coast.

Both tentative agreements must be ratified by the union memberships before some 515 strike-bound ships put to sea.

On the Pacific coast four other unions are involved in the strike, but the longshore terms are considered the key to peace. The four other unions are to meet with management today.

Final settlement would return 92,000 to maritime jobs and many thousands more to work in other industries halted or curtailed by the strike.

It would release some US\$30,000,000 worth of Marshall Plan cargo in Eastern docks and restore business running into millions of dollars.

The Pacific tie-up, second longest in history, has cost by estimate of the Pacific American shipowners about \$344,000,000 in trade at the rate of \$4,000,000 a day.

The negotiators' agreement boosts the Western longshore basic wage by 15 cents to \$1.82 an hour, which was the amount the union was asking when it struck on September 2.

The AFL union officers tentatively agreed on a 12-cent increase retroactive to August 11, to bring the Eastern day-time basic scale to \$1.88 an hour.

The 65,000 AFL union members vote tomorrow on the terms. The union's lowest previous demand was 25 cents above the pre-strike \$1.75 hourly day-time rate.

To Sail In A Week

Waterfront observers predicted union ratification of the Pacific agreement but believe that if no hitch developed, it would be about a week before dock work resumes on the 250 idle ships.

The Pacific coast Waterfront Employers Association agreement with the longshoremen carried provisions for a three-year contract, to be operated under a peace plan underwritten by the national CIO on one side and the San Francisco employers on the other.

It provided for improved grievance machinery, increased vacation benefits and a designated day off each week. There would be maximum shifts of nine hours, and an 8 a.m. starting time.

The announcement of the Pacific terms described the proposed new pact as one based on complete good faith. The two sides joined in the prediction that this contract and this new spirit can mean a new era for West coast shipping.

Doomed Men Hanged?

Tokyo, November 26.

The Japanese war-time premier, Hideki Tojo, and the six other Japanese major war criminals sentenced to die with him, are likely to be hanged today, according to unofficial indications in Tokyo.

Official American sources have shut down on all information on the hangings and said that no further announcement about the prisoners will be made until the executions are completed, but the Buddhist priest who will administer the last rites to Tojo was called to Sugamo prison early today.

Execution between midnight and dawn tomorrow would follow the normal routine at the prison for the execution of war criminals.—Reuter.

Some 28,000 strikers and others idled by the walk-out have been off the job from Canada to Mexico in this maritime strike, exceeded in length only by the bloody 1937 strike that lasted 98 days.

The Pacific American Steamship Association still must settle with the CIO Marine Cooks and Stewards, the Independent Marine Firemen and the CIO—Radio operators. An agreement was reached some time ago with the marine engineers, but it was contingent upon settlement with the other unions.

The employers' resolve to do no more business with Presidents Harry Bridges of the longshoremen and Hugh Bryson of the Cooks and Stewards unless they signed non-Communist affidavits was dropped as direct negotiations were resumed two weeks ago under a fresh burst of harmony.

The East coast strike affected the sailing and docking of several luxury ships, and tied up about 250 vessels. Besides the pay boost, peace terms include a broad welfare plan and extra vacation benefits.—Associated Press.

Party pause



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Chemicals Exploded In Minor Bikini Operation

Somewhere between Lamma Island and Cheung Chau Island yesterday afternoon, about HK\$200,000 worth of dangerous goods went up in smoke when the Army, on behalf of the owners, blew up 180 drums of highly inflammable chemicals aboard an old junk.

The dangerous operation, undertaken by Colonel R. Finney and Captain Darnell (RAOC), lasted five hours during which the lives of several men stood at stake, and was described by eyewitness as a minor Bikini Atom Bomb explosion.

Billows of thick bituminous smoke mushroomed high into the sky and flames licked the surrounding water for nearly half an hour. Chemical reaction caused the water to bubble like a geyser as dark smoke shrouded the scene.

The junk sank immediately as 180 lbs of Plastic 300, detonated by a fuse set light by Captain Darnell and Colonel Finney, blew up the drums.

"The disposal of the chemicals was a complete one," Captain Darnell told the "China Mail" last night. "Only a few pieces of wood have evidence of what had been destroyed."

"We left the harbour at about 2 p.m. and a Mother's Tag towed the junk containing the drums," Captain Darnell related.

"Somewhere between the Lamma and Cheung Chau Islands, Colonel Finney and I boarded the junk. As we were planning to lay the charges a drum suddenly began to smoke and burst into flames.

Looking Junk

"The chemicals were a mixture of naphthalene and other preservatives and when contact was made with water would explode immediately. We feared if the junk, a leaking hull, 20 miles from shore, might have drifted to the beach."

"Both of us left the junk and remained at about 300 yards away for about five minutes, awaiting for something to occur."

"We both returned on Police Launch No. 22, while the smoke cleared, and the junk was seen. Nothing occurred at the launch was alongside, but suddenly another sheet of flames licked out, causing a slight commotion aboard the launch."

"A constable fell into the water. Except for the ducking he sustained no injury."

"As we were manoeuvring, Sub-Lieutenant Mayor, in charge of the launch, somehow or other got his arm in between the bow of the junk and the stern of his launch, causing severe injuries to his arm."

"The inspector was taken to Kwai Lok Hospital by another police launch. We suspected he had a fractured arm."

"We returned again after a few minutes and took away 20 lbs. of explosives from the junk which was enveloped in smoke with flames shooting out from several angles."

Four Minutes To Go

"We prepared the explosives about the police launch about 300 yards away, and went back to the junk where we both set the fuse and scurried away with four minutes to go."

"The bow of the craft, which was sinking slowly as a result of heavy leakage, blew up into pieces, sinking the junk immediately."

Cup For Sir Robert Ho Tung



Above, Sir Alexander and Lady Grantham listen as Sir Robert Ho Tung expresses his thanks at yesterday's presentation. The silver cup presented to Sir Robert Ho Tung, is shown on the right.

Hong Kong's Grand Old Man Honoured For Long Services

Sir Robert Ho Tung, Hong Kong's Grand Old Man, was presented with a large silver cup by the Permanent Board of the Po Leung Kuk (Home for Destitute Women and Children) in recognition of his outstanding services to the Kuk.

The presentation was made by the Chairman, Mr. Li Tsun-nung, in the hall of the Kuk in the presence of a large gathering, headed by the Governor and Lady Grantham.

The Kuk, said Mr. Li, was established 71 years ago, and was the major institution in the colony for the care of destitute women and children. Sir Robert was one of their chief benefactors, and the presentation was a mark of their grateful appreciation for all that he has done for the institution.

Sir Alexander Grantham, who earlier inspected the Kuk and together with Lady Grantham, took a keen interest in the activities of the Kuk's 165 inmates, paid tribute to the good work of the Directors of the Kuk, and to the principal guest of the day. He said:

"This is a double occasion, and therefore doubly auspicious. First we are gathered together to honour an old established and extremely useful institution—the Po Leung Kuk."

"Secondly we are gathered together to witness a presentation to the outstanding public-spirited gentleman, Sir Robert Ho Tung."

"I consider myself very fortunate in being here today and being able to take some part in the proceedings."

"From the report of your Chairman, and from what I have heard from the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, the Social Welfare Officer, and many other people, it is evident that the Po Leung Kuk has had another successful year. I stress the word another because the Kuk has more than 70 years' fine service to its credit."

"You told us, Mr. Chairman, of various forms of useful employment and training that the women and girls here receive. You and your fellow directors are wise people, and you have not forgotten the saying 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'; and you are providing playgrounds for the young people where they can enjoy themselves."

Appreciation

"I congratulate you on your past months' work, and I should like you to know how much I, as Governor, appreciate what you have done."

"I have one thought, however, and it is this: Since your charges are mostly women and girls, and a few very young boys, would it not be a good thing if there were a few more lads on the board?"

Referring to Sir Robert Ho Tung, the Governor said that he was a small boy he thought the King of England was the oldest man in the world, because he thought, a King must be a wise man, and the wisest men were the oldest men.

"That reasoning was pretty sound, and it is certainly exemplified in the case of Sir Robert Ho Tung who, with his many years of experience and, his keen perception, of mind gives him unrivalled ability to discern what is true and what is false, what is genuine and what is spurious, and to be able to distinguish the gold from the dross."

"I know from my own experience since I have been Governor."

His Majesty the King has approved of the appointment of Mr. Brim, Charles Keith Hawkins, O.B.E., to be an official member of the Executive Council until November 31, 1949.

The Hon. Mr. Maurice Murray Watson returned to the Colony on November 18, 1948, and resumed his seat on the Legislative Council.

Mr. William Aneurin Jones, Land Officer and Registrar of Marriages, resumed duty on November 22, 1948.

Mr. Edward Harwick Salisbury, Assistant Crown Solicitor, ceased to act as Land Officer and Registrar of Marriages on November 22, 1948.

Mr. Harold Rupert Hirst, Accountant General, resumed duty on November 22, 1948.

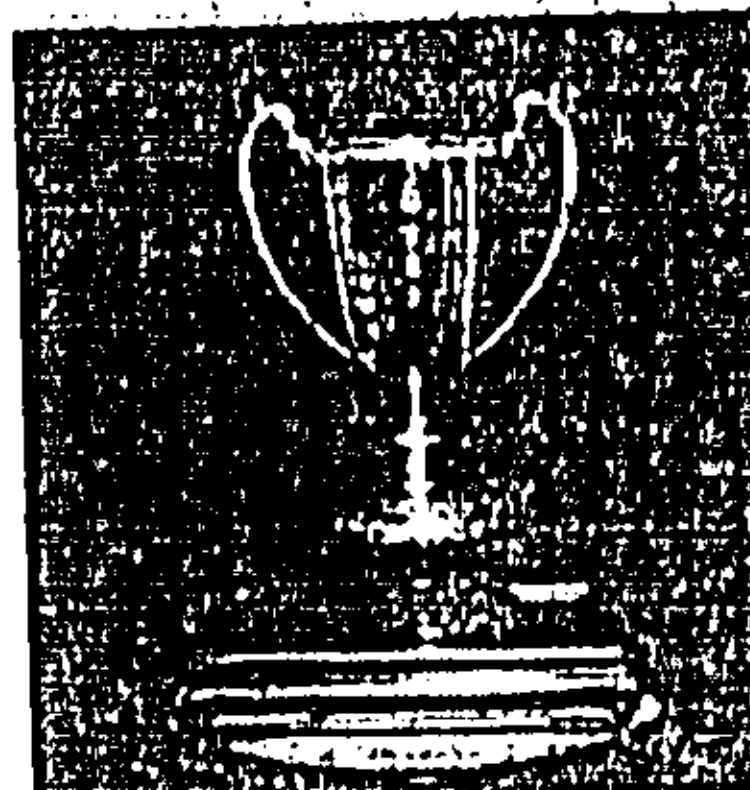
Mr. Harold Rupert Hirst has been appointed Collector of Stamp Revenue with effect from November 22, 1948.

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AIA Holds General Meet

The American International Assurance Co., Ltd., held its 13th annual general meeting at its head office, 12-14 Queen's Road Central, yesterday.

The Chairman, Mr. C. L. Litchfield, said the Company did not resume its normal activities in 1947 but made progress in re-establishing its connections in the various fields where it operated before the war.

Records of the Life Department had been reconstituted, and they were able to take on new business as well as to care for the old.

The Accident Department would also be re-established as that had proven to be a profitable source of income in the past.

It was proposed to re-enter the Fire and Marine field with caution.

The report and accounts were adopted, and Messrs. H.G.W. Woodhead, C.H. Duff, J.R. Jones and G.D. Litchfield were re-elected to the Board for the ensuing year.

Among those present at the presentation ceremony, besides the Chairman and Directors of the Kuk, were Mr. R.R. Todd (Secretary for Chinese Affairs) and Mrs. Todd, Mr. J.C. McDouall (Social Welfare Officer), Sir Man-kan and Lady Lo, Sir Robert Ho Tung, Sir Souseen Chow, Mr. T.N. Chau, Mr. and Mrs. H.J. Crutwell, Mr. and Mrs. Chung King-pui, Mr. Ngan Shing-kwan, Mr. Tang Shiu-kin, Dr. S.W. T'so, Mr. Tam Woon-long, Dr. F.I. Tseung, and many others.

DECORATIONS

Will all persons resident in Hong Kong (except serving Members of His Majesty's Forces, who have at any time had British decorations conferred on them) please send details to the Chief Clerk, Colonial Secretary, not later than Friday, December 10, 1948, stating the year in which the decoration was conferred.

"You told us, Mr. Chairman, of various forms of useful employment and training that the women and girls here receive. You and your fellow directors are wise people, and you have not forgotten the saying 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'; and you are providing playgrounds for the young people where they can enjoy themselves."

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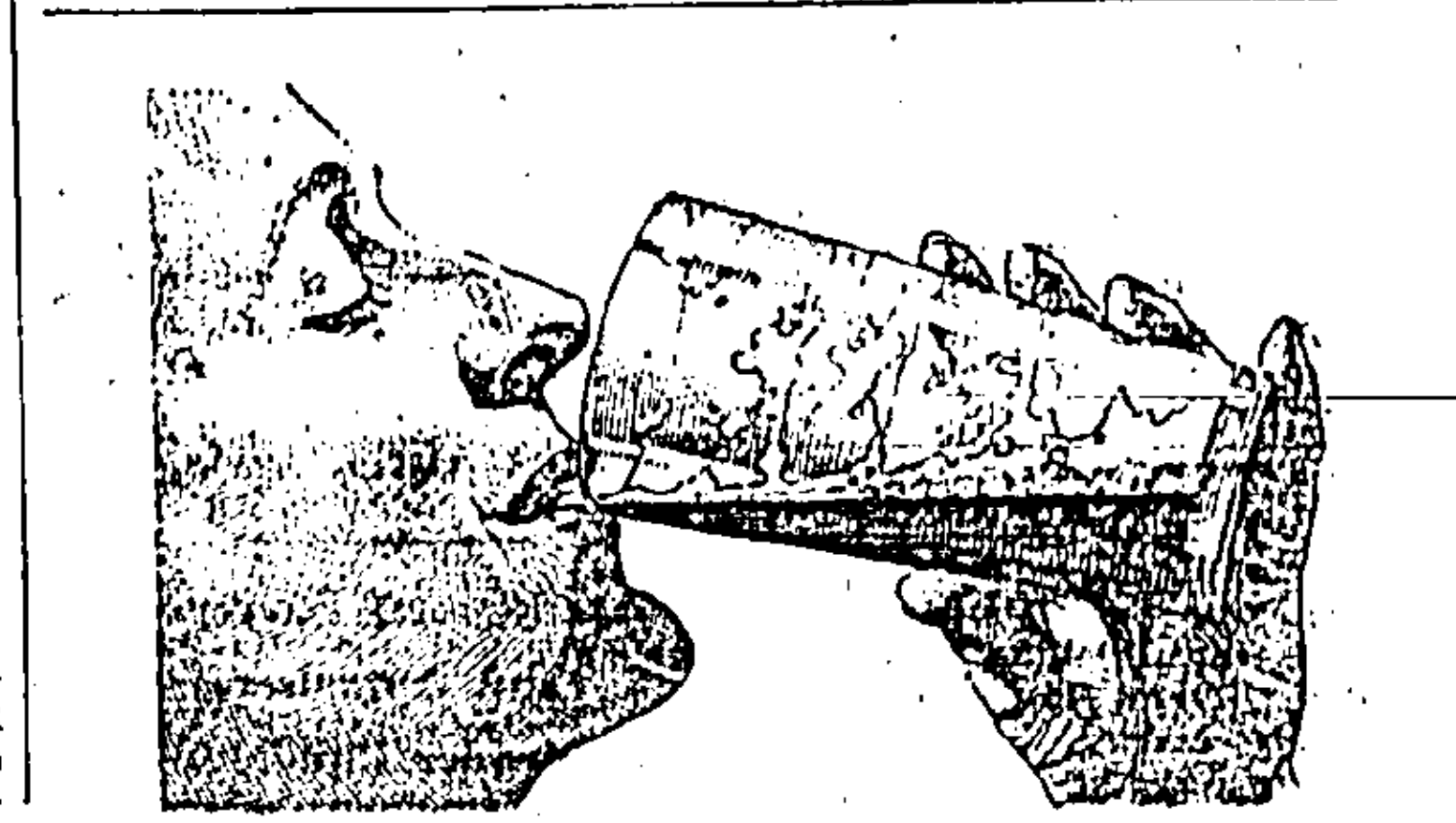
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WELL WORTH STALKING

Some people eat ALL of the stalk of our cauliflowers SOME of the time, and others eat SOME of the stalk of our cauliflowers ALL of the time, but EVERYONE eats ALL of the white of our cauliflowers ALL of the time!

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Miss Grier Talks On UK Social Services

A talk on social services in England was given by Miss Lynda Grier, visiting representative of the British Council in China, at the PRO Lecture Room yesterday evening.

Miss Grier reviewed the growth of social services in England over the last 150 years, and said though still far from perfect, they were today ahead of similar services in the world.

The Education Act of 1944, said Miss Grier, had laid the ground for a scheme for providing education for the people literally from the cradle to the grave.

Dealing with social insurance, and in particular unemployment insurance which, despite early doubts, had become a distinct success and had been now adopted by other countries, Miss Grier said had not been for this form of insurance against unemployment, "we might have had a real revolution, with the rapid developments that had taken place."

The latest form of social insurance was free medical aid which she felt sure would prove to be successful and beneficial to the nation.

"There's a lot of grumbling about rationing about austere conditions and about other restrictions, but there is not a single person in

England who grumbles about our social services and wants them cut down," said Miss Grier. "That shows the spirit that makes our social services the success they are."

Miss Grier said she had met people who thought only those who were educated or the leaders of the people could get the things they wanted.

"That is a totally wrong conception. In England it was the common people, the labourers, who fought for the social services and improvements that they are now enjoying."

"One of the things we have to learn from English social services is that there must be universal pressure. The will must spring from the common mass. We must all get together and press for the things we need, and must be prepared to undergo sacrifices and work for the well-being of those who are less better placed than we are," said the speaker.

Miss Grier, who arrived here from Canton on Tuesday, will be returning to Nanking by air on Wednesday.

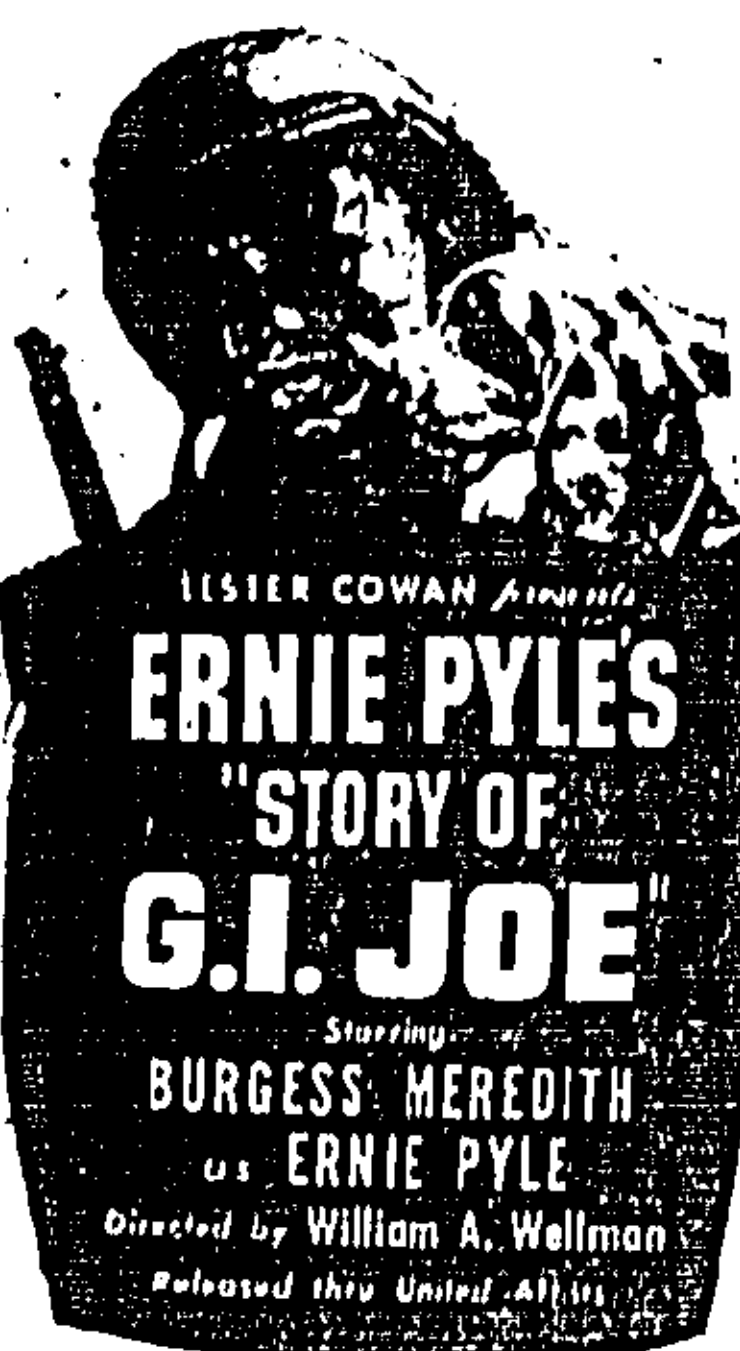
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EIRE NOT REGARDED AS FOREIGN COUNTRY

London, November 25.

Britain will not regard Eire as a foreign country after her repeal of the External Relations Act which has hitherto bound her to the British Crown, Mr. Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, told Parliament today.

He said Eire citizens would not be regarded as foreigners. The Eire Government had stated that it intended to bring its legislation into line with that in the Commonwealth countries so as to establish by statute that in Eire the citizens of the Commonwealth countries would receive comparable treatment.

The British Government, the Prime Minister said, regretted that Eire would no longer be a member of the Commonwealth after the Republic of Ireland Bill came into force.

Eire, however, had stated that she recognised the existence of a special close relationship between Eire and the Commonwealth countries and desired that it should be maintained.

Mr. Attlee said the British Government also recognised the existence of the actual ties of kinship and traditional and long-established economic, social and trade connections.

The British Government was at one with the Eire Government in desiring this and that friendly relations should continue and be strengthened.

Act Of 1948

The Prime Minister began his statement by reviewing the events since 1937 when the new Eire Constitution, making no reference to the Crown, was enacted. But it did however, leave in force the External Relations Act of 1936 which authorised the King to act on behalf of Eire in certain matters with the field of external relations.

"In December, 1937, the United Kingdom Government stated, after consultation with the Governments of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, that they, like those Governments, were prepared to accept the new constitution as not affecting a fundamental alteration on the position of Eire as a member of the Commonwealth."

The position of Eire citizens in the United Kingdom will be governed by the British Nationality Act of 1948.

Mr. Winston Churchill, the Opposition leader, said the Opposition in no way associated itself with the Government's action. The Government was acquiescing in arrangements which left the Southern Irish in full enjoyment of any advantage there might be in being connected with the British Empire and Commonwealth without any reciprocal obligations of their own towards it.

Ulster's Position

He contended that no arrangement which might be made by the present Govern-

ment or any Government in regard to Ireland could afford any rule or precedent for application elsewhere. Amid Opposition cheers, he said that new Southern Ireland had separated altogether from the Crown, the maintenance of the position of Northern Ireland becomes all the more obligatory upon us.

He could not conceive that even the Socialist Government would coerce Northern Ireland out of their right to choose what shall be their relationship with the Crown and Commonwealth. He said: "In respect of future legislation which may be presented to us, we reserve absolute freedom of action."

Mr. Attlee replied that there was no change whatever in the constitutional position of Northern Ireland. He did not think there was any immediate need for legislation, though there might be some need for clearing up one or two small points.

Not A Precedent

The Prime Minister added that unless Mr. Churchill was prepared to put forward home policy which is better than that which, after careful consideration with other members of the Commonwealth, they had put forward, he might have accepted this with better grace.

Mr. Churchill said that on account of its geographical position near Great Britain and on account of the long and terrible tragic story between the two countries, it seemed clear that Ireland was in an entirely different position to any other part of the world in which Britain was at present interested. Mr. Churchill contended that no arrangement which might be made by the present Government or any government in regard to Ireland could afford any rule or precedent for application elsewhere. He said a ditch was being dug between Northern and Southern Ireland which invested the partition of Ireland with greater reality and permanency than ever.—Reuter.

EX-CARRIER TO CARRY MIGRANTS

Plymouth, November 25. The 7,000 ton former British aircraft carrier Albatross will leave here shortly for the Mediterranean where she will probably start a new career transporting emigrants from Italy to Australia.

The ship, which has been bought by the Greek firm will be renamed The Helios Prince. She was built in 1929.—Reuter.

Plane From HK In Emergency Landing

Manila, November 26. A Trans-Atlantic Airlines Dakota from Hong Kong to Manila with 27 Chinese passengers made an emergency landing at Lingayen airport in North Luzon late on Thursday.

The local TAA office sent a relief plane to pick up the passengers, all of whom were from Amoy.

Captain Francis McGowan, pilot of the disabled craft, made minor engine adjustments and continued the flight to Manila, arriving 10 minutes after the passengers were brought here. The Civil Aeronautics Administration opened a routine investigation.—Associated Press.

ABDUCTIONS ON THE INCREASE

Athens, November 26. Greek guerrillas have stepped up their abductions in all parts of Greece.

The Government said that in Vuvvara Verdu North West of Kozane, guerrillas seized 43 persons.

At an unidentified village near Agrinio, girls and six men were abducted. Between Argos and Tripolis, guerrillas carried off 17 men and five women.—Associated Press.

RADIO

This is Radio Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles per second and on 0.52 megacycles per second in the 31 metre band.

H.K.T.
12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Light Orchestral Programme with Bill Johnson (Vocal).
1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.25 p.m.—Interlude.
1.30 p.m.—"Handstand"... Park and Dore Workmen's Band conducted by Floyd Bell (HRTS).
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
2.05 p.m.—Programme Summary.
2.07 p.m.—"Unit Requests" Linda Cole—Calling—H.M.S. "Alert" (Studio).
2.08 p.m.—World and Home News (London Relay).
2.15 p.m.—Carroll Gibbons (Piano) "On the Air".
2.30 p.m.—New Variety.
2.35 p.m.—"From the Editorials" (London Relay).
2.40 p.m.—"Saturday Round-Up"—"An Artist in China"—Arthur Lindsay.
2.45 p.m.—Sports Results (Studio).
2.50 p.m.—Grieg: Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16... Wilhelm Backhaus and the New Symphony Orchestra, conducted by John Barbirolli.
3.00 p.m.—Eric Portman in "British Agent"—The true story of Wing Commander Joe Thomas. (HRTS).
3.05 p.m.—Radio News Reel (London Relay).
3.10 p.m.—Weather Report.
3.15 p.m.—"Cabaret" and Dance Music.
3.15 p.m.—Weather Report and Close Down.

ROOSEVELT SAID JOE WAS NO IMPERIALIST

New York, November 25.

President Roosevelt told the Polish Premier, Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, in June 1944 that he was sure Josef Stalin was no imperialist.

Moreover, the late President assured Mikolajczyk that Stalin would not dare deprive Poland of its freedom because he knew the U.S. Government stood solidly behind them.

Mikolajczyk gives this version of his conversation with Mr. Roosevelt in his new book, "The Rape of Poland; Pattern of Soviet Aggression."

He also recalls that in October 1944 Stalin himself told him that Poland would not become a Communist state, because the Poles were too individualistic and too nationalistic.

"Poland's future economy should be based on private enterprise," Mikolajczyk quoted Stalin as saying. "Poland will be a capitalist state."

Mikolajczyk said Mr. Roosevelt told him Stalin was a realist.

"And we must not forget, when we judge Russian actions, that the Soviet regime has had only two years of experience in international relations," Mikolajczyk quoted the late President as saying.

"But of one thing I am certain, Stalin is not an imperialist. In all our dealings with Stalin we must keep our fingers crossed."

No Intention Of Fighting

"And you Poles must find an understanding with Russia. On your own, you would have no chance to beat Russia, and let me tell you now, the British and Americans have no intention of fighting Russia."

"But don't worry, Stalin doesn't intend to take freedom from Poland. He wouldn't dare do that because he knows the United States Government stands solidly behind you. I will see to it that Poland does not come out of this war injured." Mr. Roosevelt recalled that he had mentioned the American elections to Stalin.

"Fascist Rebirth In Japan"

Paris, November 26.

Soviet bloc delegates said today that the United States is sponsoring the rebirth of Fascist groups in Japan and Western Germany.

The accusations were made in a debate on a draft declaration of human rights in the United Nations Social Committee.

The Ukrainian delegate, Stephan P. Demchenko, said General Douglas MacArthur's occupation forces are sponsoring the rebirth of Nipponese Fascist groups.

Earlier, the Soviet delegate, Alexei Pavlov, said that remnants of Fascist and Nazi groups are still active in Western Germany and are receiving constant encouragement from occupation authorities.

They were speaking in support of a French amendment to Article 28, declaring that no group may by implication use the declaration to destroy the right and freedom proclaimed. The amendment was adopted unanimously.—Associated Press.

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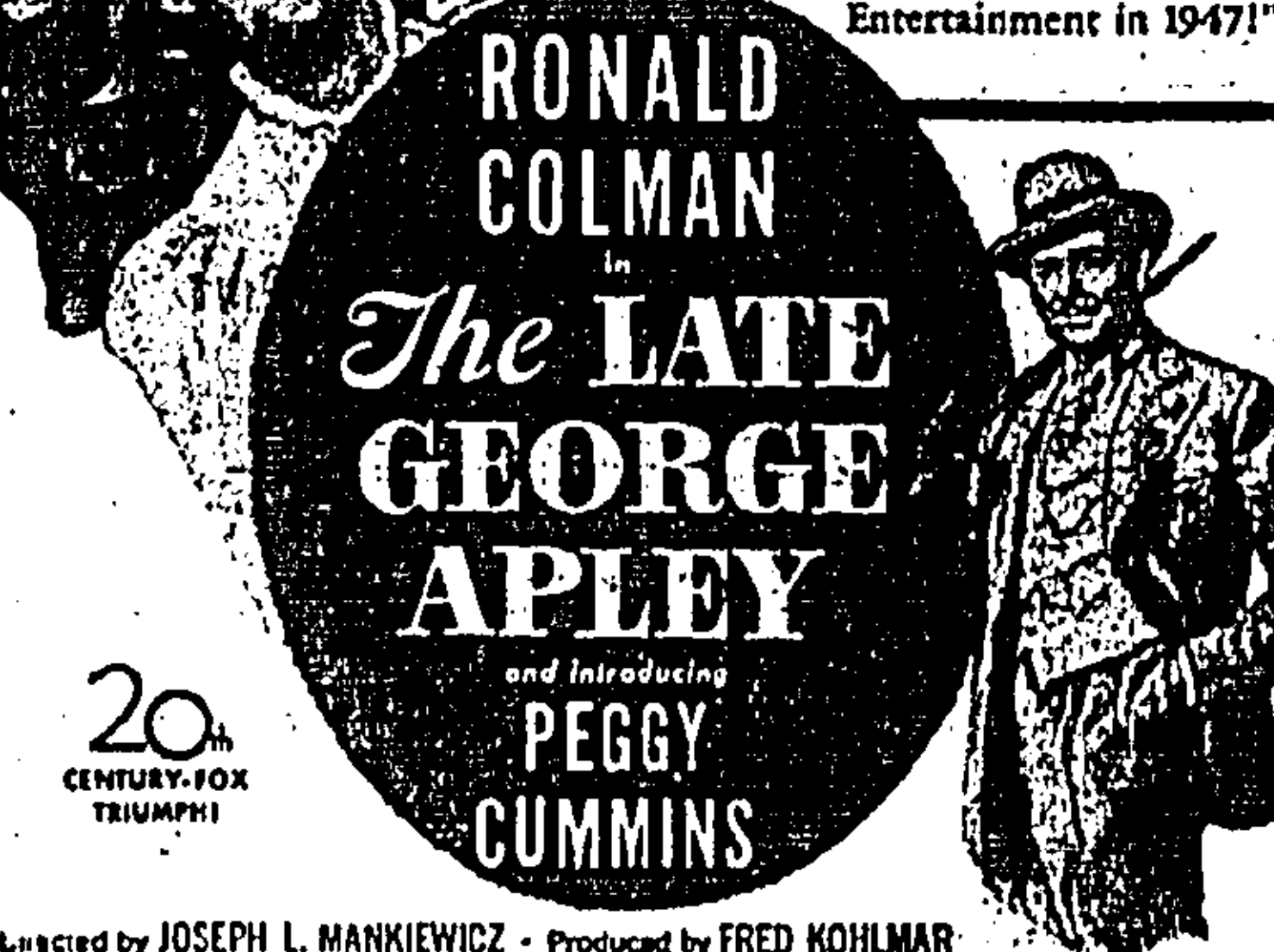
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THE EIGHTEENTH INSTALLMENT

CRUSADE IN EUROPE

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's
Own Story Of The War
In Europe

morning's meeting he decided to participate on the basis we decided. I promised that if he were successful in winning French support I would deal with him as the administrator of that region, pending eventual opportunity for civil authorities to determine the will of the population.

In further talks with General Giraud it developed that there was a radical difference between his conception and mine of what, at that moment, should be done strategically. He was in favour of turning immediately to the attack on Southern France, paying no attention to Northern Africa. I showed him that even as he spoke the troops were landing on their selected beaches; that there was no possibility of providing air support for the landing, he proposed; and that the Allied shipping then in existence would not provide a build-up for an invasion of Southern France that could withstand the force the Germans would assuredly bring against it. Finally, I explained that the campaign on which we were embarking was backed up by such intricate and detailed maintenance arrangements that the change he proposed was completely impossible.

He could not see the need of North Africa as a base—the need for establishing ourselves firmly and strongly in that region before we could successfully invade the Southern portion of Europe. He was not aware of the lessons the war had brought out as to the effect of land-based aviation upon unprotected seaborne craft. He had probably never assessed, in terms of tactical meaning, the loss in the South West Pacific of the two great battleships, the Prince of Wales and the Repulse, when they were

ing through General Mast of the French Army, and to the sympathy, even if slanted in official antagonism, of General Alphonse Pierre Juin.

Always in the back of our minds was the need for haste in getting on to the Tunis area. On the night of the eighth I scribbled a pencilled memorandum which I still have. In it appears the notation, "We are slowed up in Eastern sector when we should be getting toward Bone-Diserte at once."

At Oran we got ashore, but the French forces in that region, particularly the naval elements, reacted bitterly. Some hard fighting ensued and the U.S. 1st Division, which was later to travel such a long battle road in this war, got its first taste of conflict. In spite of incomplete training, the 1st Division, supported by elements of the 1st Armoured Division, made progress and on November 9 we knew we would soon be able to report victory in that area. On the ninth all fighting ceased at Oran. Generalis Frederic and Terry de la M. Allen met their initial battle tests in good fashion.

We knew that the attack on the West coast was launched, but there was no news of its progress. Actually at certain points, notably East Lozère, fierce fighting developed. The trenches were had given us the one quiet day in the month necessary to make the landing feasible, but the period of calm lasted only a short time and later reinforcing was most difficult. I tried every possible means to get in communication with the Western command, Rear Admiral R.K. Hewitt of the Navy and General Patton of the Army. The radio again failed and gave us nothing but unintelligible signals. Thereupon we tried sending light bomber craft to Casablanca to gain contact, after French fighters had shot down several of them we knew that this method was futile. In desperation I asked Admiral Cunningham if he had a fast ship in port. By good fortune one of the speediest afloat was then at Gibraltar getting up steam to rush some vital supplies into Malta, and without hesitation the Admiral offered her to me for the necessary time to make contact with the Western Task Force. I chose Rear Admiral Bernhard H. Bieri of the United States Navy to head a staff group, and they took off within the hour.

On the morning of November 9, General Clark and General Giraud went by air to Algiers in an effort to make some kind of agreement with the highest French authorities. Their mission was to end the fighting and to secure French assistance in projected operations against the Germans.

To Be Continued

cue the general from virtual imprisonment in Southern France. An elaborate plan was devised by some of our French friends and Mr. Murphy, who had returned to Africa after his visit to London. General Giraud was kept informed of developments through trusted intermediaries and at the appointed time reached the coast line in spite of the watchfulness of the Germans and the Vichys. There he emerged in a small boat, in the dark of night, to keep a rendezvous with one of our submarines, lying just offshore. A British submarine, commanded for this one trip by Captain Jerauld Wright of the United States Navy, made a most difficult contact with General Giraud and put out to sea. At another appointed place the submarine met one of our flying boats, and the general with but three personal aides and staff officers, flew to my headquarters during the afternoon of November 7. The incident, related thus briefly, was an exciting story of extraordinary daring and resolution.

General Giraud, though dressed in civilian clothes, looked very much a soldier. He was well over six feet, erect, almost stiff in carriage, and abrupt in speech and mannerisms. He was a giant in bedraggled figure, and his experiences of the war, including a long term of imprisonment and a dramatic escape, had not daunted his fighting spirit.



It was quickly apparent that he had come out of France laboring under the grave misapprehension that he was immediately to assume command of the whole Allied expedition. Upon entering my dungeon he offered himself to me in that capacity. I could not accept his services in such a role. I wanted him to proceed to Africa, as soon as we could gain after his safety, and there take over command of such French forces as would voluntarily rally to him. Above all things, we were anxious to have him on our side because of the constant fear at the back of our minds of becoming engaged in a prolonged and serious battle against Frenchmen, not only to our own sorrow and loss, but to the detriment of our campaign against the Germans.

General Giraud was adamant; he believed that the honour of himself and his country was involved and that he could not possibly accept any position in the venture lower than that of complete command. This, on the face of it, was impossible. The naming of an Allied commander in chief is an involved process, requiring the co-ordinated agreement of military and political leaders of the responsible governments. No subordinate commander in the expedition could legally have accepted an order from General Giraud. Moreover, at that moment there was not a single Frenchman in the Allied command; on the contrary, the enemy, if any, was French.

All this was laboriously explained to the general. He was

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The alternative was to bring the entire Western convoy inside the Mediterranean to cluster about the already crowded port of Gibraltar. Here it could have fuel and be ready to return to Casablanca for the landing as originally planned, or the troops could follow in the assault at Oran and push backward down the railway toward the North West coast. Neither alternative was attractive, since each required hasty revision and adjustment of plans, already in execution. But the law of probabilities indicated that we would have to adopt one of them.

Even as late as the afternoon before the attack the weather reports from one of our submarines in the Casablanca region were gloomy, and I tentatively decided, unless conditions should improve, to divert the expedition into Gibraltar. All our plans would thus be badly upset, but this seemed better than to steam aimlessly around the ocean, dodging submarines.

THE RED MENACE

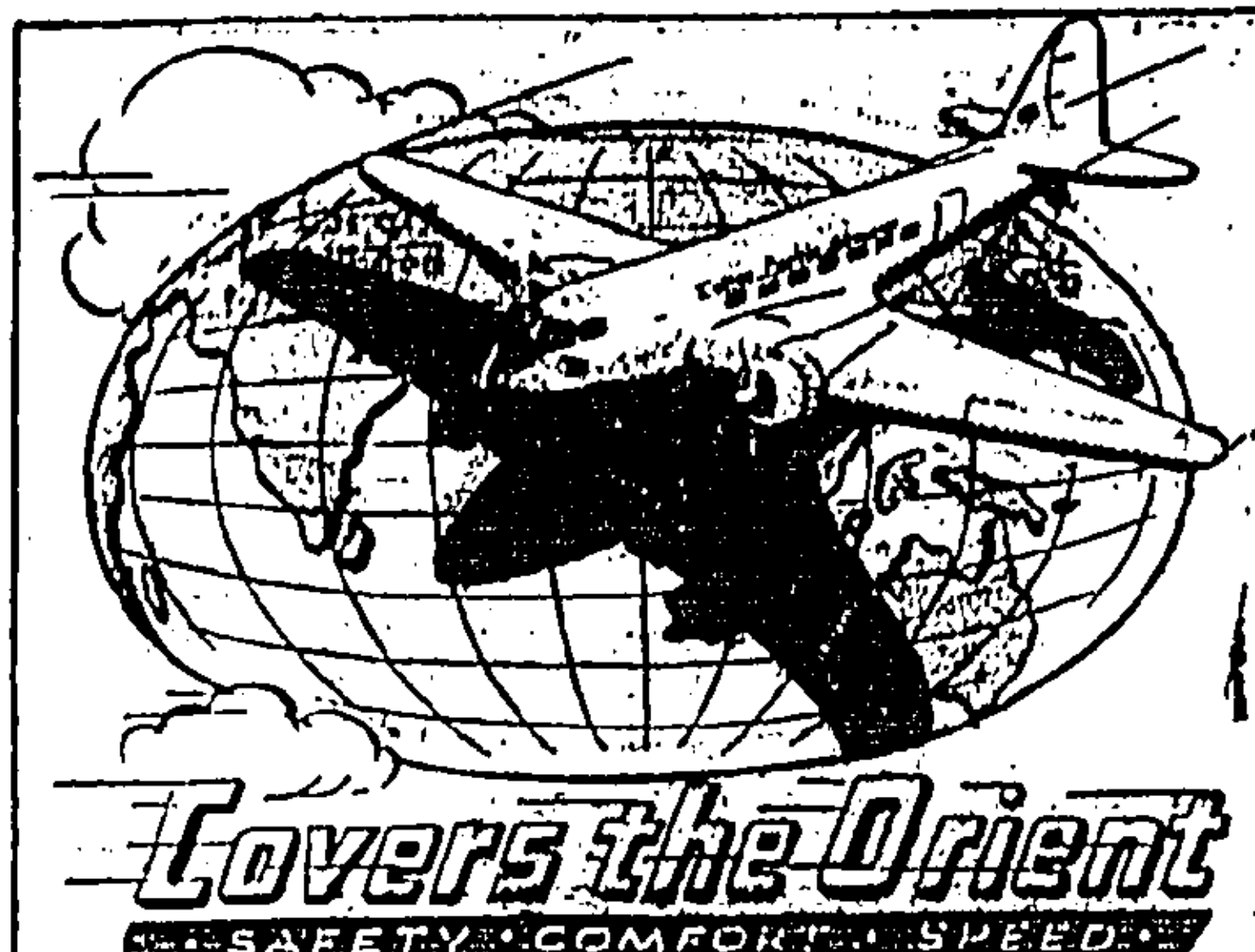
Hong Kong is under no illusion as to the burden which seems likely to be thrust upon it as a result of the Chinese Communist victories in North China. Even assuming that the Red sweep reaches down to the line of the Yangtze Valley and there stops, an already bloated population will inevitably be swollen substantially, creating heavy problems for the local authorities. Should they, on the other hand, decide to press further South—a matter of months, but not a danger to be ruled out—the Colony's difficulties are certain to be increased to a degree not pleasing to contemplate. These are potentials which few in the Colony have overlooked. Whether there is equal appreciation of the effect of recent events on the situation throughout the whole of the Far East is perhaps rather more doubtful. The most serious threat is that continued Communist victories will give fresh heart and stimulus to Communists in Burma, Malaya, Siam, Indonesia, and Indo-China at a time when, on the whole they were losing the initiative and being worn down by counter-measures. The most notable setback the Russian-inspired campaign has sustained has been in Malaya. Formerly concentrating their attacks on the white population, they appear to have abandoned this as a policy no longer profitable and to be directing their operations to the destruction of communications, an admission in itself that the project of seizing control of the administration has collapsed. The country is still under British rule; it is highly sectionalised; the administration seemed to have lost its sureness of touch and to have alienated its Malay friends; an active Communist Party appeared to provide a perfect opportunity of subverting authority through organised terrorism. Yet the rebellion has been halted; and the attitude of Malaya, domiciled Chinese and Indians in supporting the Government has exposed the hollowness of the claim that the caucus of immigrant Chinese and Javanese deserve to be called nationalists. The projected coup d'état has failed: the government, thanks to the rally of the people and its own energetic efforts, is secure. Economic sabotage has met with no better success: the production of tin and rubber, vital for European recovery, has surpassed last year's figures. The Communist victories in China, however, bring their reminder of the persistent threat. Marxist ideology has taught Communists that the time is "historically right" for securing to themselves the rich lands of South East Asia. One of the main "contradictions" in capitalism, which the Communists seek to exploit is a clash between "oppressed peoples and possessing powers." The Japanese occupation quickened the people's desire for independence, and the Communists hoped to exploit to their own ends the return of Western Administrations. Communist propaganda had down to the popular feelings against Big West, against landlords and factory managers and against

the Western Powers. Our first battle contact report was disappointing. The USS Thomas Stone, proceeding in convoy toward Algiers and carrying a reinforced Battalion of American troops, was torpedoed on November 7, only one hundred and fifty miles from its destination. Details were lacking and there existed the possibility of a very considerable loss of life. Though our good fortune to this point had been amazing, this did not lessen our anxiety for the men aboard. We could get no further information of their fate that evening but later we learned that the incident had a happy outcome as far as the honour of American arms was concerned. Casualties were few and the ship itself was not badly damaged. There was no danger of sinking. Yet officers and men, unwilling to wait quietly until the ship could be towed to a convenient port, charted the decision of the commander to take to the boat and attempt to reach, on time, the assault beach to which they were assigned. Heavy weather, making up during the afternoon, tolled their gallant purpose and they had to be taken aboard destroyers and other escort vessels, but they were finally placed ashore some twenty hours behind schedule. Fortunately the absence of these troops had no appreciable effect upon our plans.

That same afternoon, November 7, brought to me one of my most distressing interviews of the war.

Because of the earnest belief held in both London and Washington that General Henri Giraud could lead the French of North Africa into the Allied camp, we had started negotiations in October, through Mr. Murphy, to res-

whatever government was in power. Everywhere the simplest catchwords were used to win support from people who had no means of understanding the true meaning of Communist dictatorship and collectivism. It was a formidable threat to all hopes of ordered progress towards liberty. Without the guidance and flexibility shown by the Administration in Malaya, without its readiness to admit its first constitutional mistakes, the attack there would certainly have been more dangerous and more widely spread. As it was the Administration had brought the country far on the road to economic recovery and exports were rising before the Communists struck openly. The people as a whole had already been given a vested interest in the continuance of the Administration. Yet more remains to be done in Malaya and much more has to be done in other countries before the Communists can be said to be finally checked. Economically and politically, the people must be shown to possess a larger share of the fruits of their own labour, and to have a more direct say in their own government. This can only be achieved through the active participation of the people in the management of their own affairs, against



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Union To Prevent Caning!

Ecclesham, November 25.
Mr. Herbert Copping, Headmaster of Horsely Hall School here, today outlined plans for a children's trade union which he intends to form as a protection against corporal punishment.

Mr. Copping proposed the children's trade union yesterday after Mr. A. Wildman, a cane manufacturer and President of the National Society for the Extension of Corporal Punishment in schools, who was visiting the school, had been seized by the pupils and caned by one of the boys.

Horsely Hall is co-educational free expression school where there is no corporal punishment. The projected trades union would secure for children the same legal rights that adults enjoy, Copping told a reporter today.

"We hope to have a union representative in every school in the country so that children can go to their local union to obtain advice and, if necessary, protection," he explained.

"We shall apply for affiliation to the Trade Union Congress and, seeing that we shall be numerically the strongest union in the country, we should be in a very strong position for shaping the policy of the T.U.C.," he said.

Little Chance Of A New Policy

Washington, November 25.

Washington policy-makers are expected to pursue a policy of limited aid to China, despite the failure of this policy thus far.

Reason for this, says the magazine United States News and World Report, is that by comparison with the alternatives this policy looks pretty good.

But Nationalist China's chance of getting any quick new American aid dwindled sharply.

The United States' hope is that new leadership will show up to replace General Chiang Kai-shek.

It is important, also, to keep some sort of Nationalist Government alive to speak for China at the United Nations—to side with the West against Russia.

The United States' assumption is that if the worst comes to the worst, the Communists cannot run China anyway.

Government officials said that the answer to the Chinese appeal for financial and material help will be delayed pending a thorough study of this country's prospects for success.

Under Review

It was said that the entire problem is undergoing review by the top level National Security Council, which advises President Truman on international, domestic and military matters.

Questions facing the Council are whether the United States can save China from Communism, what bill it would be, and whether it would touch off danger.

Reparation For War Damages

London, November 26.

The question of compensation to Malaya by the Japanese for war damages is to be raised in the House of Lords on Tuesday by Viscount Elibank.

He gave notice of his question on Thursday.

He will ask why out of an asterity total of £55,000,000 awarded to Malaya for compensation for war damage, Japan is due to pay in reparations only £10,000,000, while Malaya has to shoulder £35,000,000.

Lord Elibank will also ask why this unfair proportion payable by Japan was agreed to by His Majesty's Government, in view of the fact that Japan caused all the damage, inflicted many brutal and barbaric injuries on the populace and British prisoners of war and robbed the tin mines and the rubber estates of many thousands of pounds worth of tin and rubber. Associated Press.

China's Need

It is no secret that the Administration is chary of underwriting the present Government of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

Generalissimo Chiang's recent reverses are traced by some officials to his failure to force land and educational reforms, levying high taxes, and continuing corruption in local governments.

The New York Herald-Tribune editorial today said there is a tendency to lose sight of the point that whatever Americans do in China is less important than what the Chinese can do.

The editorial added: "China might still be saved with a reasonable amount of American assistance if opponents of Communism there sought to defeat the Reds not only with weapons of war but with efficient and honest administration and with intense concern for the welfare of the Chinese people."

"The need in China is for opposition to Communism that offers something more attractive than high taxes, inflation and corrupt and inefficient provincial and county officials."

"To use a Chinese expression, what is wanted in China is a government that has the mandate of heaven."—United Press.

managements of the Ruhr mines and industries, at the meeting.

On the following day, France presented to the United States and Britain a memorandum on management which is still being studied by Whitehall.—Reuter.

Call For New U.S. Policy On China

Washington, November 26.

The Washington Post calls editorially for a new U.S. policy in China based squarely on the American interest in the Far East.

The Post says: "Basic appreciation of the chaos in China is that a rebellion against Chiang Kai-shek is in progress—led by many other elements in addition to the Communists. The Communists are merely exploiting it."

"This they are doing successfully, though not so much because they are strong as because the Nationalists are weak."

The editorial described as

thoroughly bankrupt the American policy of thinking of China only in terms of Chiang Kai-shek, of supporting him with aid and arms in his struggle to keep a non-existent power.

"It is now opportune," the Post, said, "to revamp our American policy so as to relieve ourselves of Chiang Kai-shek's coat tails."

"A new policy should be based squarely on the American interest in the Far East. That is, first and foremost, the protection of American lives and property in key ports of the Chinese littoral (coastal region). Strategy would go out the window if we allowed ourselves to be dragged into an anti-Communist crusade wherever there was a Communist eruption."—Associated Press.

Routine Visit Paid By King's Doctors

London, November 26.

Sir John Weir and other doctors made what was described as a "routine visit" to the King at Buckingham Palace today.

A statement issued after the visit said that a further bulletin would be issued next Monday.

It is not believed that today's visit indicates any change in the King's condition since the nature of his illness makes regular medical examination necessary.

The King today carried out his usual State business and attended to correspondence. No audience had been arranged for today and the King was able to spend the day quietly. —Reuter.

Atlantic Defence Talks Next Week

Washington, November 25.

Seven-power talks on a Western Union Atlantic Alliance may begin in Washington next week.

When the seven powers—the United States, Britain, Canada, France, and the Benelux countries—agree on the terms of the proposed Alliance, it is expected they will invite a number of other countries to join.

Representative Charles Eaton, a leading Republican foreign policy adviser, today lent his support to the Alliance.

Mr. Eaton, who is Chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee in the present Congress, and will be the chief minority leader of the Committee in the new Congress, told reporters the United States

should be prepared to supply arms and technical advice to friendly Western European nations if they need it and if America has it to spare.

He added that if Western Europe fell under Russian domination, it would be the last calamity of our age.

If Russia's intention is to conquer the world the only way to meet that is head on, he said. The 80-year-old Congressman said the United States should make it clear to the Russians that any attempt on their part of an armed conquest will be met by the same kind of force that defeated the Kaiser and later Hitler.

Hard Fact

"As long as this is impressed on Josef Stalin, and his conspirators we will not have war," he stated.

When reporters reminded him that Russia was part of that force that beat Hitler, Mr. Eaton snorted and said: "You know as well as I do that Soviet Russia was not an ally. We might just as well face the hard and cruel fact that Russia's intention is to conquer the world."

Plans for a North Atlantic Alliance, will soon be completed, General A.G.L. McNamara, the chief Canadian delegate to the United Nations, recently told a secret meeting of high French personalities, it was learned in Paris today.

The only possible threat to the safety of North America, he said, would be some combination of the forces in Europe and Asia which had extended their dominance to the oceans to the West, East and North.

Soviet Aim

That did not yet exist, but it was within the thought of some concerned in the policy of the Soviet Union.

An adequate counterpoise would include both the nations of North America and North West Europe. An American-Canadian Permanent Joint Board was constantly reviewing the situation.

"We have every reason to believe," he added, "that arrangements looking to the early completion of this Alliance are proceeding satisfactorily and so we may expect that shortly all our countries will be working closely together again in our mutual defence problems, and that our association will proceed on a rising curve of intimate collaboration." —Reuter and United Press.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HONG KONG?

The photograph shows one of the walls of St. John's Cathedral.

Sophoulis Has A Second Attack

Athens, November 25.

M. Themistocles Sophoulis, the 88-year-old Greek Prime Minister, who collapsed in his office with a heart attack last night, had a second attack tonight.

A bulletin earlier this afternoon had announced a continued improvement in his condition. Attendant doctors believed he would recover within 10 days unless there are further complications.

Some congestion of the lungs was revealed by X-ray this morning. The disease was expected to follow a normal course with subsequent convalescence.

M. Sophoulis' condition was tonight considered to have worsened and the Government was taking measures in event of his death. It was learned from usually reliable sources that M. Constantin Tsaldaris will be asked to return immediately from Paris as the Cabinet would then have to be reformed.

Tonight's attack was said to be milder than yesterday's. The Premier was still tonight in bed in his office, bad weather having so far prevented his removal.

M. Sophoulis was being maintained tonight with oxygen. The bulletin issued tonight said, "the urgent crisis makes diagnosis difficult. General conditions are heavier." It was announced that the Cabinet Co-ordination Council was meeting regularly. The Council appointed two Deputy Prime Ministers tonight to handle the situation in case of the Premier's death.

The two men are M. Constantin Rallis, Liberal Minister of War, and M. Deterina Romichalis, Popular Minister of Marine.—Reuter.

SUSSEX ARRIVES IN SHANGHAI

Shanghai, November 26.

The 10,000-ton cruiser Sussex arrived here from Hong Kong last night and tied up in "Ballship Bay" opposite the Bund. Sussex left Hong Kong on Tuesday.

At the time of her departure, it was thought that her visit here was connected with the critical China situation but this was denied in Hong Kong. For sailing, it was pointed out, had been planned previously.—Reuter.

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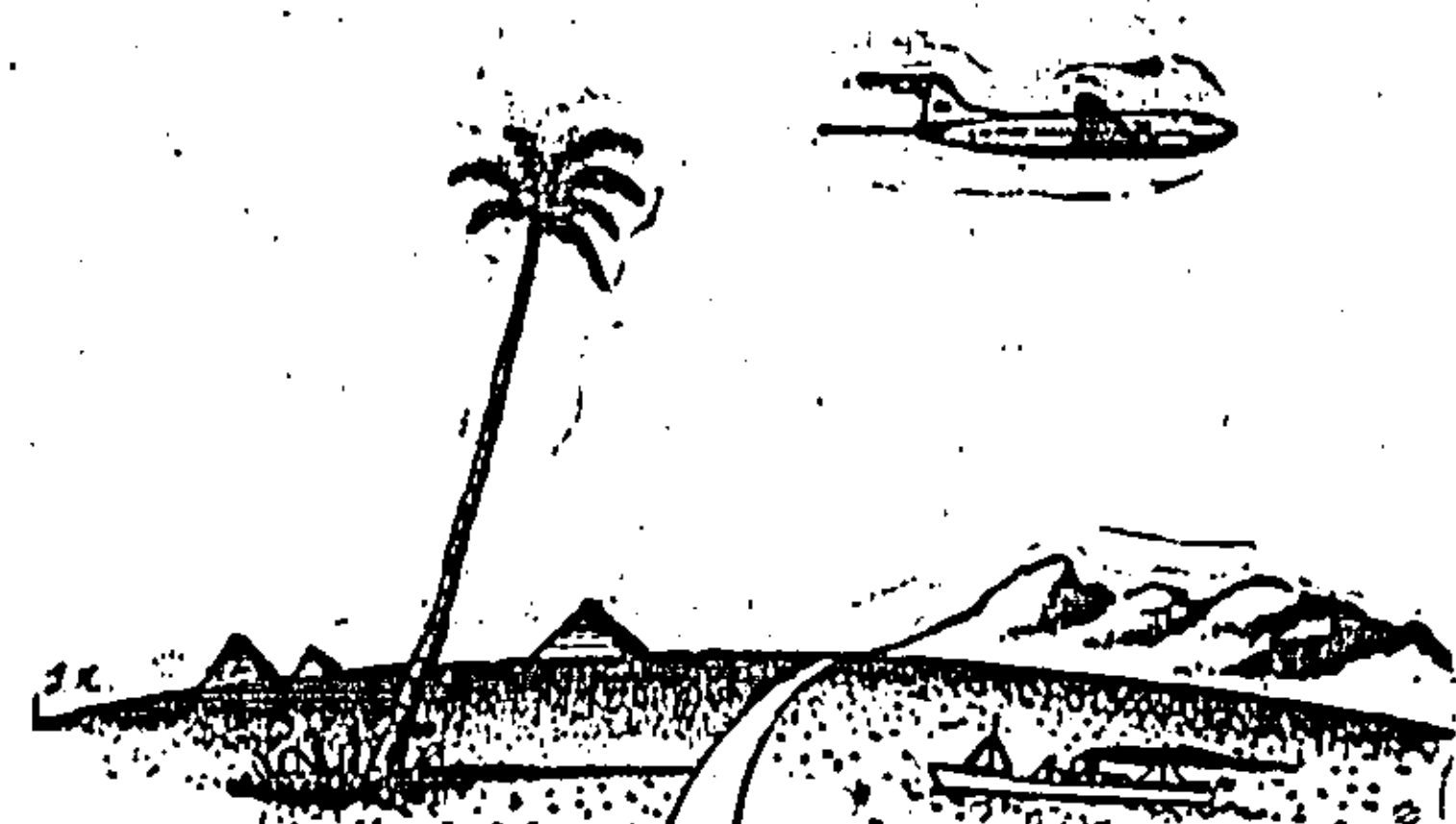
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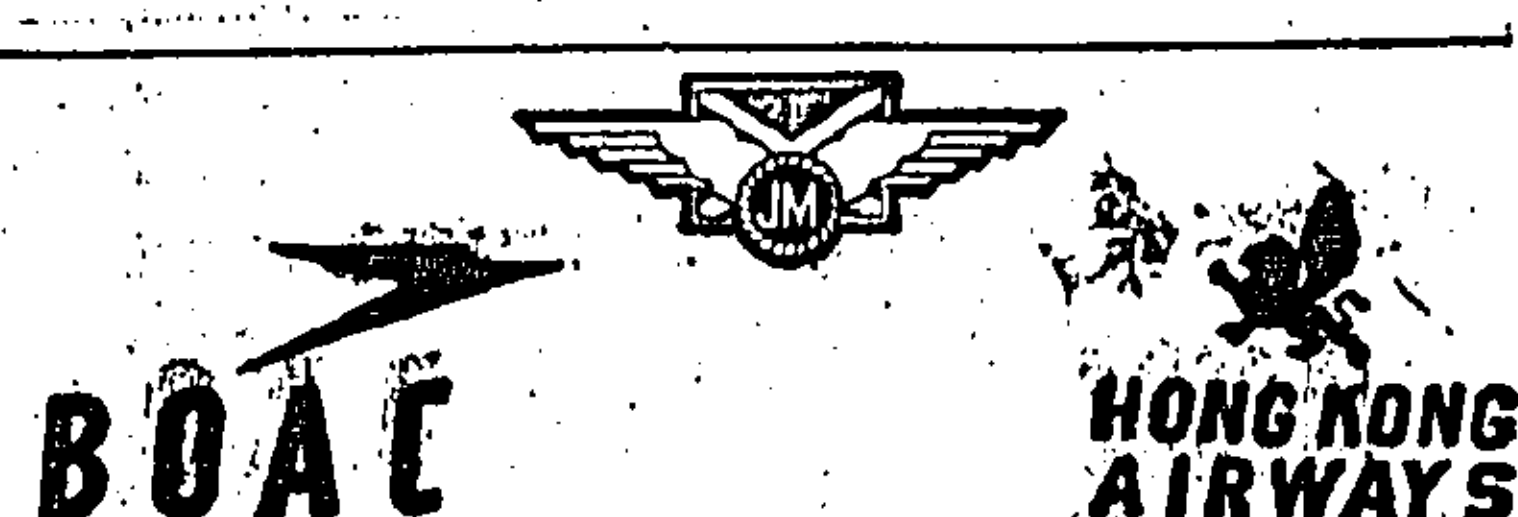
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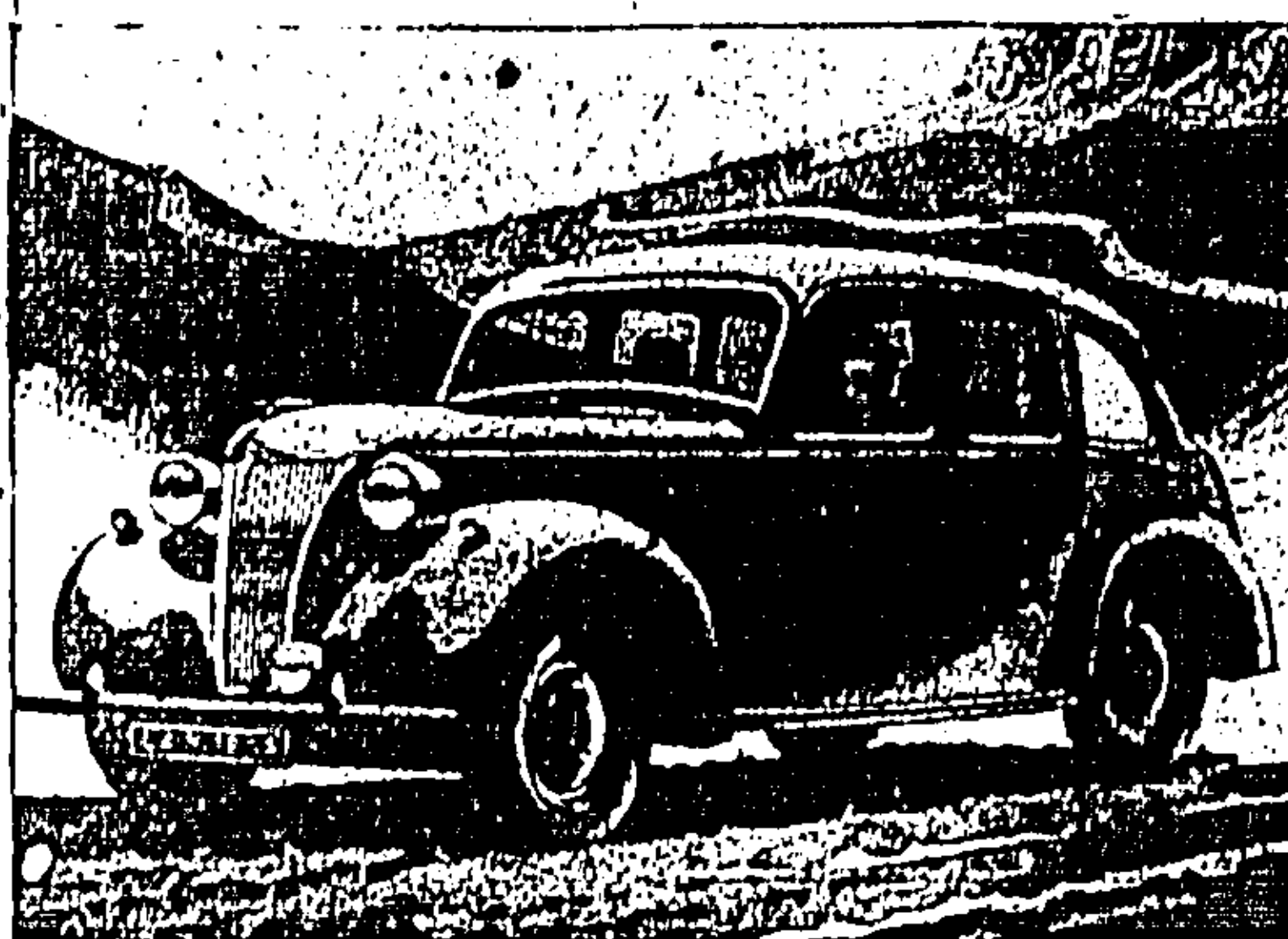
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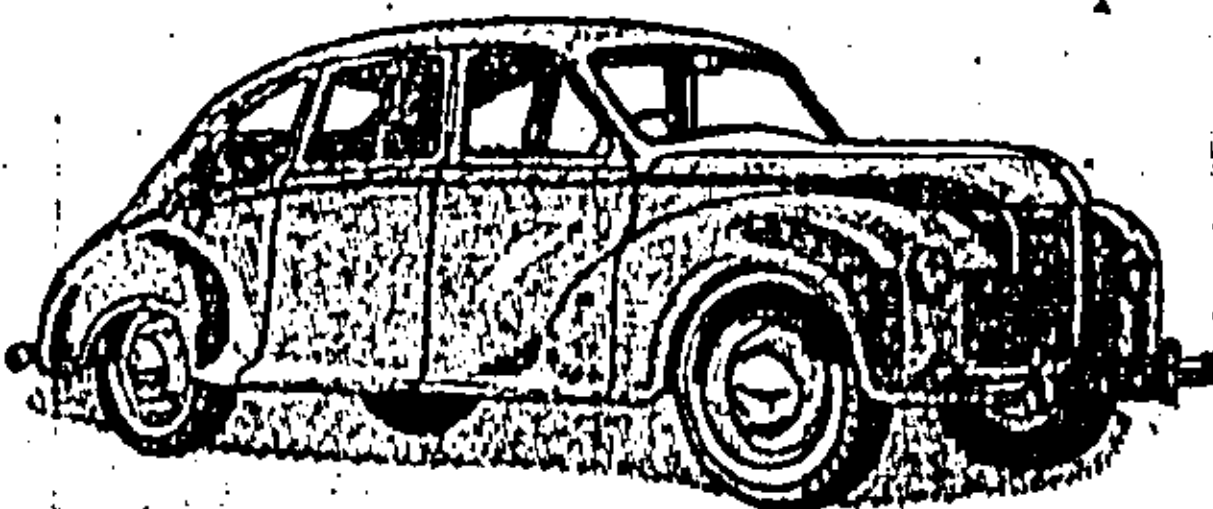
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MOTORING NEWS AND VIEWS

CAMERADERIE IS LACKING
AMONG HONG KONG MOTORISTS

For a comparatively small place, we have, here, in Hong Kong, an exceptionally large and ever increasing motoring community. Under local conditions, the lot of the motorist is not an easy one.

He has to contend, not only with congested streets, filled with jay walkers and slower moving vehicles; lack of adequate parking facilities; the inexperience of many of his fellow drivers, but also with the winding roads and hairpin bends which make a virtue of caution and denies him the joy of trying out the capacity of his car with safety.

Unfortunately, it is the lack of camaraderie among the motorists of the Colony which greatly magnifies every difficulty. Courtesy on the Road, the unwritten laws of good motoring, the spirit of give and take, of "do as you would be done by" are conspicuous by their absence. The benefit of good road manners is so completely reciprocal that it should need no recommendation, yet good manners are the exception rather than the rule of the road.

Of the many instances which could be quoted, perhaps the most glaringly obvious, is the question of dipping headlights when cars pass at night. The blaze of oncoming headlights—even in the well-lighted streets of the City Centre—is not only disconcerting and blinding, but can be really dangerous during that moment when both drivers must drive "blind." The advantage of "dipping" is elementary and absolutely mutual, as are the disadvantages of not doing so. Yet, it is a fact that the majority of motorists fail to comply with this simple and beneficial rule of safe and courteous driving.

Glorie From Behind

Another night driver who merits censure is the man who follows closely behind another car without dipping his lights or switching off his headlights, blinding the driver in front with reflected glare. Maybe he is waiting to overtake, but, on our winding roads, opportunities are not frequent and he may have to wait some time. Meanwhile he irritates the man in front and causes him to strain his eyes.

Then come all those questions of precedence which can add so much to the pleasure of motoring. Who has the right of the road? Who should give way? It is not a question of prestige or "face"; it's a question of good manners. For every instance there is a definite answer, of which far too many motorists appear to be in the most complete ignorance. In the case of obstructions, this is most obvious. An obstruction on one side of the road means that the traffic on that side has the privilege of encroaching on to the other

side while passing, but it is a privilege and traffic on the clear side should have preference. Yet, how often do we see this privilege abused!

Poor Signals

Other daily examples include drivers who give sloppy, inadequate, or unintelligible signals—which, after all, are intended as much for their own safety as for warning advice to other motorists—such as little better than those who give no signal at all, but credit their fellow motorists with the powers of second sight; unnecessary and risky speeding outside the speed limit areas where speed is left to the motorist's discretion—and common sense; the all too common habit of "cutting in," usually to no advantage at all; chancy overtaking to save a second at the expense of possible disaster. All are selfish practices, the very antithesis of good motoring.

These and other shortcomings are blots on our motoring record. Lack of knowledge of the finer points of motoring may be a mitigation, but never a defence. It is the duty of each and every motorist to learn and practice the code of good driving. By doing so, he increases the pleasure, the safety and the good fellowship of motoring. By not so doing, he becomes the man about whom we write and, if the cap fits, he may wear it.

The Police could assist in raising driving standards by holding a Courtesy Campaign. The Motorists' Association can help with advice to members, better booklets and leaflets of road rules, printed in English and Chinese; but in the final instance it is the responsibility of the man behind the wheel.

PRE-FAB RACING TRACK

A prefabricated racing track for motor cars was recently used in New York City's polo grounds where racing alternates with field events. Constructed of aluminum alloy with an interlocked wooden surface the track has banked corners and is stated to be able to withstand the impact of cars travelling at 80 m.p.h. without damage to the turf on which the track is carried.

Speeding Exports



The scene at Tilbury Docks where the Empire Battle (an ex-tank landing craft) was being loaded with Vauxhall and Bedford vehicles for export to the Continent. This vessel carries about 190 vehicles which are driven on, thereby saving much time and cost normally necessary when the loading is done by derricks. It also enables delivery to be made more speedily.

Plenty Of
Miles To
The Gallon

On Tuesday of this week a simple test of the petrol consumption of the new Morris Oxford was carried out under the eagle eye of a representative of the "China Mail", who had been invited for that purpose. The result was the discovery that this 13.4 horsepower car will do 38.5 mpg in normal running over a reasonably long distance.

The Service Manager of Dodwell Motors, Mr. L. A. Benn, who carried out the test, stresses that in spite of this proof of the car's capabilities the firm is making no extravagant claims for it. They abide by their statement that in the Colony the Morris Oxford will do 30 mpg on the mainland and 25 on the island.

Starting from Dodwell's premises in Kowloon the test was carried out over the new "Territories" circuit, a total distance of 53.9 miles. Before starting, the tank was drained and three gallons put in. At the end the tank was drained again and a period of mild excitement followed when it was thought that there were still two gallons left. However, it turned out that the remainder had been drained off into containers of American measure. A rapid adjustment was made in the calculations and the above figure arrived at.

There seems no doubt that the Oxford is something more than just another car. A detailed description of it appeared in the "China Mail" of November 9, but a few of the points noted during the recent test run may be of interest.

Heavy sound-proofing makes for an extremely quiet run. It has always been a feature of the popular English car that casual conversation has had to be abandoned during acceleration or low-gear work. Now there is a tendency to exceed speed limits with the Oxford owing to its quiet running.

There seems to be far less changing of gears required in the Oxford as the engine-power is made available in the lower speed range. The engine shows no signs of distress at 10 mph in top gear.

A very handy parcel tray is slung across the full width of the car under the dash. It does not bark the shins of the front seat passenger, yet seems large enough to accommodate a couple of small boys if necessary.

Roominess and comfort are present to a high degree and the Oxford proves, if proof is needed, that the British motor industry is right on its toes.

RIGHT TURN
DANGER

In an attempt to classify accidents to Army motor cyclists the most frequent accident was found to happen when the victims were overtaking another vehicle which was about to turn to the right.

FLUORESCENT

A London motorist, Mr. J. Crook, of North Wembley, claims to be first in installing fluorescent lighting in cars. He has fitted a 30-watt, 50-cycle, 230-volt tube along the front bumper which can be run from a vibrator or converter off the car battery. It has been approved by the Wembley police.

THEY PAID
HEAVILY TO BE
TANTALISED

Officers of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders—window-dressers for Britain's thriving motor-car industry—were yesterday totting up the wings at Britain's most astonishing post-war exhibition, the Earl Court Motor Show.

They were entitled to a whistle of surprise at the results, which showed that 562,954 people had paid £107,000 in ten days to see the sleek new cars, crossovers, and motor-cruisers that few could afford to buy and none could expect to have delivered in under three years.

True, there were prospective foreign buyers, but their number, checked by the Motor Show organisers, did not exceed 3,000. There were, too, British car salesmen, probably curious to see models which will not reach their showrooms and garages for years.

But the bulk of the half-million visitors were the ordinary Great British Public, attracted, as always, by a glittering show, indulging, like a child in the toy department of a big store, in the poor man's pastime of window-shopping.

For the privilege of inspecting the £1,000,000 worth of export-only exhibits they paid entrance fees of 10s. on the first and last days and 5s. during the intervening week.

And many splashed the money to bring the whole family. For the children, especially the young schoolboys, it was a mechanical wonderland. They wandered from stand to stand in excited discussion.

The organisers could not print enough catalogue—bulky, too, to meet the demand. "Sold out" notices were displayed early each day. Thousands of visitors took them home as prized souvenirs—a relic of things which could be seen but not had.

Whole families made a beeline for the motor-boat section. They fanned their eyes on a luxury cabin-cruiser priced at £4,500, day-dreamed of a holiday afloat, and passed on.

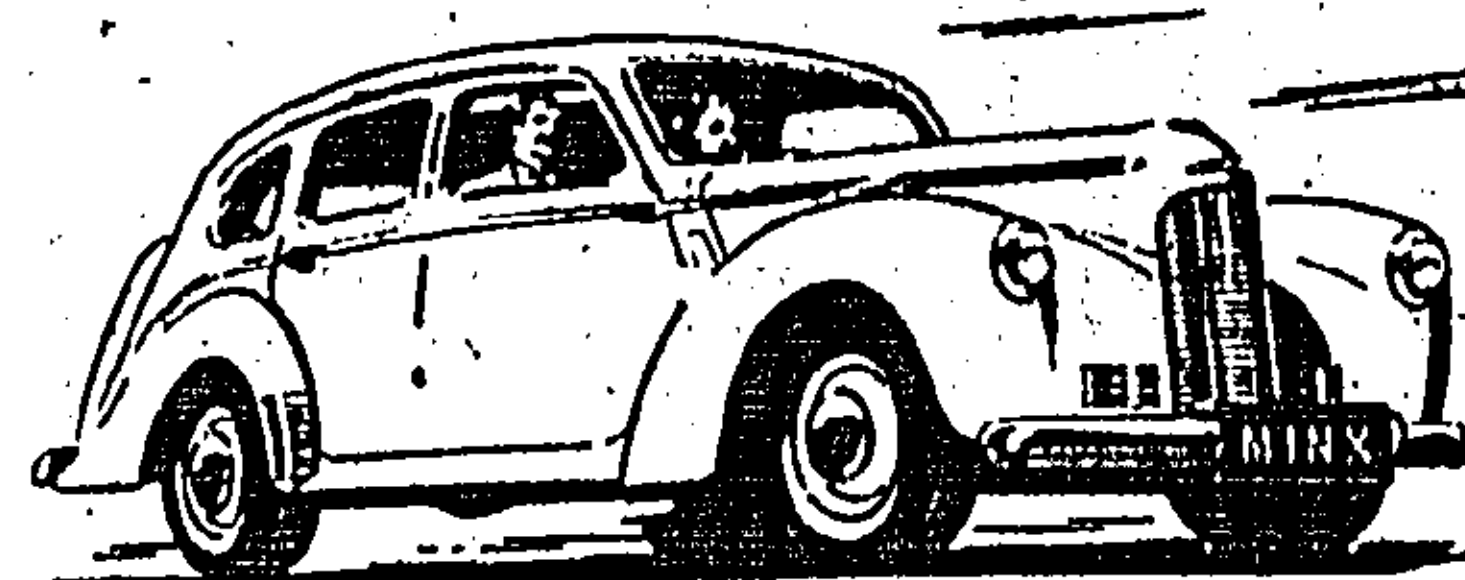
Some of them might have paused to wonder where the thousands of pounds they paid to see the Show will go.

The answer is: Back into the industry to help make more and better cars for export.

Exhibition manager Mr. J.C.J. Phillips told the yesterday: "The proceeds—overwhelmingly greater than the pre-war record, when 318,000 saw the Show—and paid £250,000—will be used for work at the research centre of the industry in this country and for maintaining export trade offices in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Near East, India, the United States, and South America."

"Some of the exhibitions staged abroad by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders are free and we pay all the costs. We carry on a continuous service on behalf of the British motor-car industry."

It was a Show which staggered foreign visitors by its size alone. RONALD DOWNING



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Tientsin Presenting A Melancholy Appearance

Tientsin, November 26.

Tientsin this morning presents a desolatory and melancholy appearance with the streets virtually deserted except for Chinese soldiers wandering about aimlessly or perhaps aiming to find warm shelter.

This depressing picture followed a day-long movement yesterday extending deep into the night of baggage being packed into crates—cases and trunks belonging to over 400 foreigners who are evacuating North China before the Haiho River freezes and the gathering war clouds break.

Accommodation for 350 persons was available aboard an American LST sailing this morning for Shanghai and a capacity passenger list went on board last night.

Over 100 British and Allied nationals will sail on board the Jardine's vessel, Wingate, in a few days for Hong Kong, and many yesterday moved their crated possessions preparatory to customs clearance later today.

Many others who are remaining through obligations or by conviction are also sending prized possessions to Hong Kong for storage as a precautionary measure pending a clarification of the obscure situation.

These sad developments, fought away from the fires of the civil war are occurring as the city's outer defences, including pill boxes and other strong points, are being manned with increased strength and vigilance while Government troops continue pouring into the Tientsin-Tangku-Tongshan area.

To Be Defended

This concentration of North China's military strength, which will be further boosted by the current withdrawal from Chingwangtao and Shanhaikuan coupled with the arrival of numerous dependents, seems to confirm the Nationalist determination to hold this region along the lines of Tientsin's gallant stand.

Unusually heavy military activity along the Peiping-Tientsin railway continued again today subjecting passenger trains to considerable delays.

This extraordinary state of affairs for the second day running is connected with the declared intention of the Government military authorities to conduct a purge among the Nationalist organs in the rear.

It is understood that the military action is directed primarily against the regional administrator and magistrate of Chinghai.

Recruiting For RAF On Increase

London, November 25.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, Secretary of Air, announced at a London press conference today a 50 per cent increase in Royal Air Force regular recruits during October—the first month of the intensified drive for regulars and reserves.

More than 3,000 officers, airmen and airwomen joined up, 1,000 more than the previous month.

Mr. Henderson said the National Service entry would go a long way towards giving the R.A.F. on a sound and balanced basis, and once the organisation got into its stride no national serviceman would be able to complain of wasting time.

He said the Royal Air Force was introducing two special schemes whereby pilot training would be offered to 3,000 selected national service entrants each year and no less than 500 commissions would be given to national service entrants in ground branches—equipment, secretariat, education and the R.A.F. Regiment.—Reuter.

HAGUE DENIAL OF JAVA CHARGES

The Hague, November 25.

Circles close to the Netherlands Government today denied Indonesian Republican allegations in Paris yesterday that Holland was violating the truce in Indonesia.

The charges were contained in a statement by the Republican representation with the Security Council which was circulated among United Nations delegations.

It was claimed here that there was no question of any Dutch blockade in Indonesia, but measures had been taken against illicit trade.

The charge in the Indonesian circular that the establishment of the autonomous State of East Java was also a violation of the truce was described here as completely without foundation.

The Lingardjati Agreement between the Dutch and the Republic, it was stated, provided for the free expression of the desire of the population regarding the political status of their territory.

whose local Militia Corps numbers 2,000 strong. Their loyalty became doubtful particularly as their superior originally was a Communist but had later switched to the Nationalist camp.

RAF Man Dies In Soviet Hospital

Chinghai is 33 miles from Tientsin and represents the Southern terminus of the Tientsin-Pukow railway.

Meanwhile, following a crossing by the Nationalists to the bank of the Grand Canal, the Communists under General Lin Piao are reported to have withdrawn Eastwards across the East Hopei plain with the resultant presence of increased numbers of Lin Piao's men along the fringe of the coal mining area.

Thus far no serious contact between the Communists and the Nationalists had been reported but the Government forces guarding the Peiping-Tientsin section of the railway are on the alert and units have been sent from Yangtze station for guerrilla warfare in China and Manchuria, North and North West of Tientsin.—Reuter.

Berlin Mediation Doomed To Fail

Paris, November 25.

Well-informed sources today said that the United States, Britain and France in effect told Dr. Juan Bramuglia, chairman of the United Nations Security Council, that his attempt to solve the Berlin currency dispute was doomed to failure.

This means there is almost no chance of early solution of the Berlin crisis by mediation in the Security Council on the present basis—making the Russian-issued German mark the sole currency for the city and Russia in turn lifting her blockade.

In their replies to a questionnaire by Dr. Bramuglia on Berlin currency problems, the Western Allies advised him in effect that he was attempting an impossible job. Dr. Bramuglia is still keeping secret the replies he received from the Western Allies and Russia, but it was understood the sense of the replies is:

Western powers:—The situation deteriorated so rapidly in Berlin in recent weeks as a result of Russian actions tending to divide the city that it is extremely difficult to work out a currency plan now. Such a plan would involve four-power control and supervision over the Russian-issued currency.

Neutral Pessimism

Russia:—The Soviet merely repeated in general outline the agreement reached in Moscow with Marshal Stalin on August 30, which was to direct the commanders-in-chief to reach an agreement on a detailed currency plan.

Though "neutral" members of the Security Council plan to continue mediation, even they are becoming pessimistic.

It was reported that Mr. Andrei Vyshinsky, the chief Russian delegate, asked Moscow for permission to let Dr. Bramuglia publish the Russian reply to the

Bevin Speech In Commons

London, November 25. The Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, now taking a three weeks' holiday at a South Coast resort, is not likely to resume his duties at the Foreign Office until December 6.

Mr. Bevin is expected back in London within a few days but he will then take a further week's rest before re-turning to work.

On December 9 he is expected to make an important statement in a foreign affairs debate in the House of Commons.—Reuter.

RAF Man Dies In Soviet Hospital

Hamburg, November 25.

Flight Lieutenant J.E. Wilkins, the sole survivor of the British night bomber aircraft which crashed in the Soviet Zone on November 17, died in Schoenberg Hospital today after doctors had fought desperately to save his life.

His wife, whose home is in Shropshire, was at his side when he died. The Soviet authorities had waived all formalities to enable her to enter the Soviet Zone after flying from Britain to be with her husband.

The Royal Air Force Dakota crashed near Luebeck and three of four people aboard were killed.—Reuter.

Appeal For Peace In Kashmir

Paris, November 25.

The Security Council today appealed to India and Pakistan to cease fighting in Kashmir after Pakistan warned that the battles there could flare into full-scale conflict.

The Council appeal was made to help the United Nations Kashmir Commission, which has tried to make both sides agree on how to carry out a plebiscite to determine which State should get Kashmir.

Alfredo Lozano of Colombia, the Commission's current chairman, told the Security Council that the Commission last week made a new approach to both India and Pakistan in details of the future plebiscite on Kashmir. He said the Commission's advances received cordial and friendly attention from both parties.

The Council directed him to report on the latest mediation attempts next week. The major part of the Council's three-hour session was

NORTH CHINA'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON HSUCHOW

Peiping, November 26.

The future of North China hinges largely on the outcome of the battle now being waged for Hsuehchow.

If the Nationalists lose Hsuehchow, the Reds will be in a position to start a drive from North to South against Fu Tso-yi's armies in Hopei province.

If the Nationalists hold on to Hsuehchow and Fu wins any big engagement with the Reds, then Peiping and Tientsin could remain secure in his hands till next Spring.

A major action in Hopei still is in the process of development. It is generally believed that the Reds will strike within the next 10 days. If they don't, Fu might take the initiative.

The best available explanation for Red withdrawal from the area around Kweisui, capital of Suiyuan, is their original move against the city. It was a feint designed to force Fu to divert troops from Hopei. If Fu had fallen for it, the Reds would doubtless have tried to take Tongshan, the great coal town 60 miles North East of Tientsin, cut the Peiping-Tientsin rail-line and generally made Fu's position in this key area untenable.

Reducing Area Of Defence

Fu apparently is prepared to sacrifice several more important points, as he did Peiping, to establish an effective defence for Peiping, Tientsin, Tangku and Tongshan.

Indications are that he might even give up Kalgan if necessary. Kalgan is the capital of Chahar, gateway to Inner Mongolia. Many factories there have been moved to Tientsin and dependents of numerous Nationalist army personnel shifted there.

The general impression is that Fu intends to concentrate his forces in a relatively small area where he has a chance of retaining the upper hand rather than garrison distant points and let the Reds reduce them one by one.

This does not mean that Fu is going to abandon wholesale all areas outside his main defence zone. Most probably he will group part of his troops into a strong task force ready both for offensive and defensive action.

Bright Spot

Thus, for example, instead of heavily garrisoning the railroad between Peiping and Kalgan, he could use his task force to meet any big threat to it. This force could also be used to crush Red attempts to get a solid foothold inside his main defence zone.

With Tangku as a supply port and a good grip on the railway branching from these points to Peiping and Tongshan, he should be in a good position to safeguard this zone. Tientsin, beleaguered capital of Shansi, remains one of the brightest spots in the whole Nationalist situation in North China.

The Reds have been attacking Tientsin for seven weeks but the Governor of Shansi, Yen Shih-shan, held on defiantly ready—so he says—to poison himself rather than fall captive.

Important To Fu

His stand has been an important contribution to Fu Tso-yi's task.

For if the Reds took Tientsin they would be in a position to apply a great deal of pressure against Peiping and Tientsin from the South.

Pro-Government reports said Yen has received several thousand airborne reinforcements in the past few weeks. Air drops to his lonely citadel are being maintained and if accounts from both foreign and Chinese sources are correct, the Nationalist Air Force recently has been giving him increased support.

This support, while negligible from world war two standards, is doing its share in holding the Reds at bay.—Associated Press.

Death Was Suicide, Reds Say

San Francisco, November 26.

The Chinese Communist Radio said today that Chen Pu-wei, Secretary General of the Kuomintang Central Political Committee, killed himself.

It termed his act another sign of the Kuomintang reactionaries' impending collapse.

Chen died in Nanking on November 13, and press reports from Nanking said he died of a heart attack.

The North Shensi Radio attributed its version of Chen's death to a Red correspondent.

The radio said Chen took an overdose of sleeping tablets and referred to him as one of Chiang's most faithful henchmen. It commented: "Chiang Kai-shek cannot even keep such a lackey as this by his side or inspire him with confidence in the future."

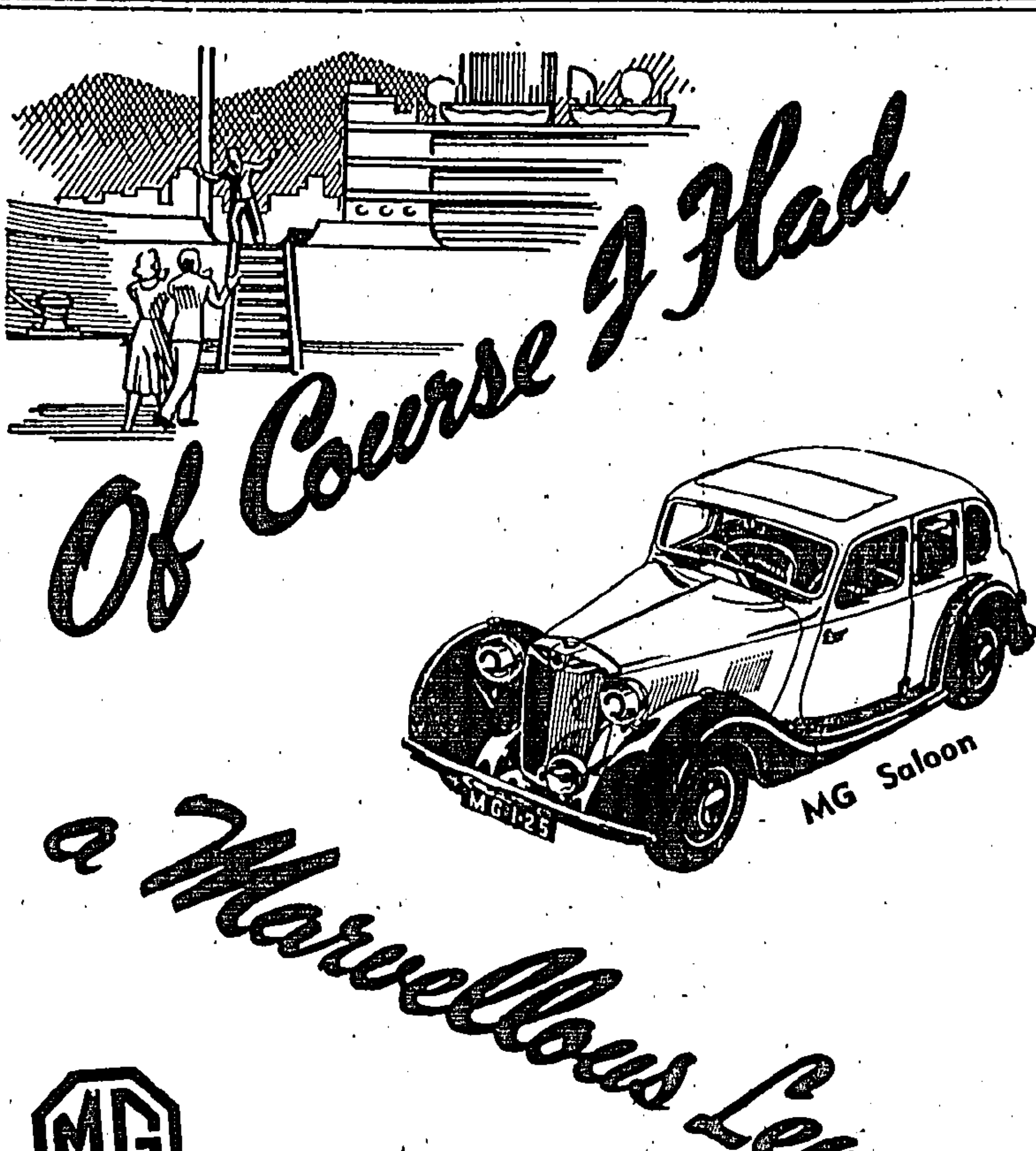
"It is reported that Chen was extremely pessimistic about future prospects for the Kuomintang and killed himself after Chiang Kai-shek cursed him. In his will, Chen wrote: 'The light has faded and the oil has dried up'. This is a good description of the disintegrating Kuomintang reactionary rule."—Associated Press.

DEADLINE FOR G. I. BRIDES

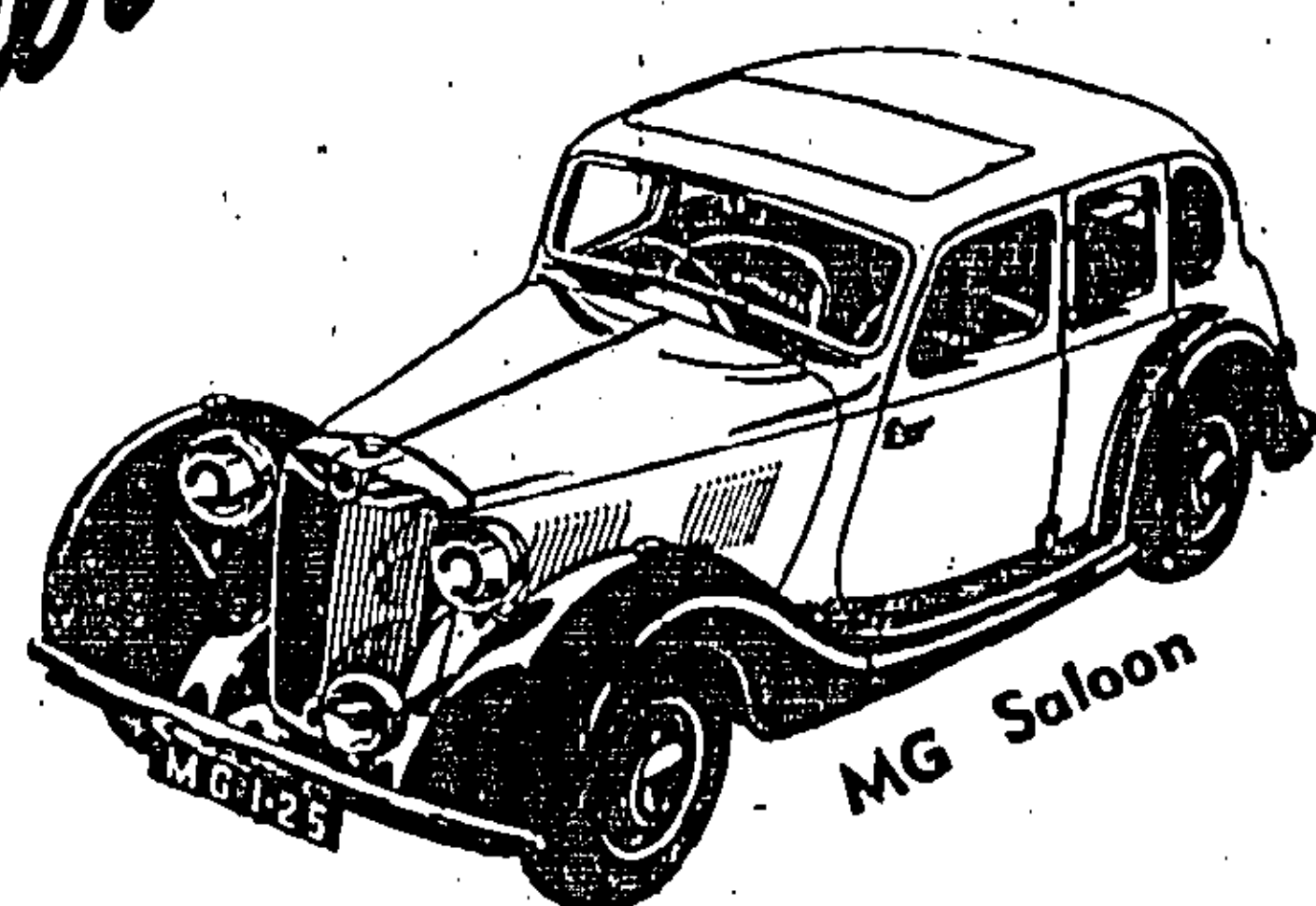
London, November 25.

All G. I. brides and children who wish to enter the United States without being subject to immigration quota restrictions must arrive there by midnight on December 27. It was stated at the American Embassy in London today.

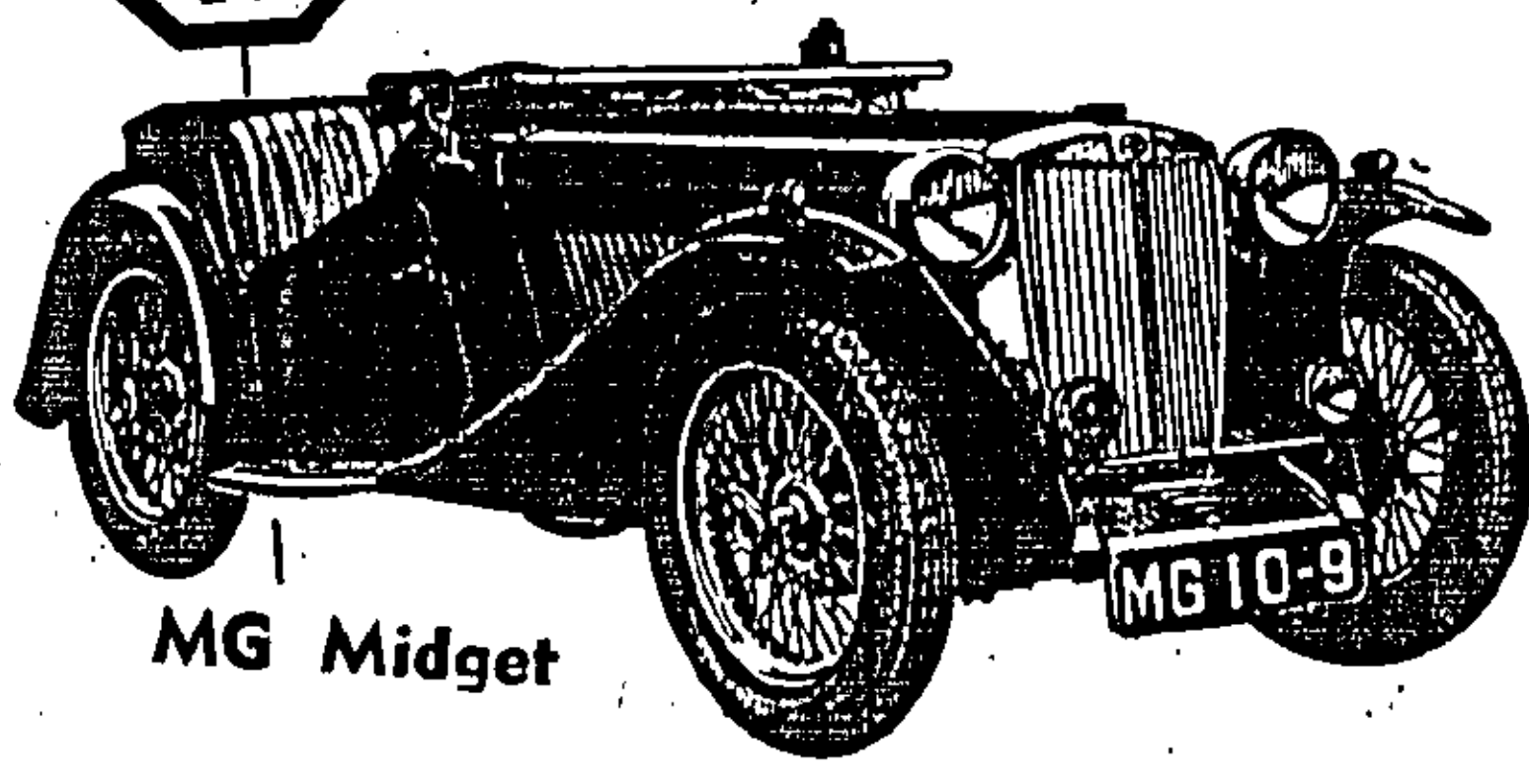
After that date G. I. dependents will come under the normal quota system as immigrants and will require passports, visas and medical examination.—Reuter.



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a Marvellous Leave



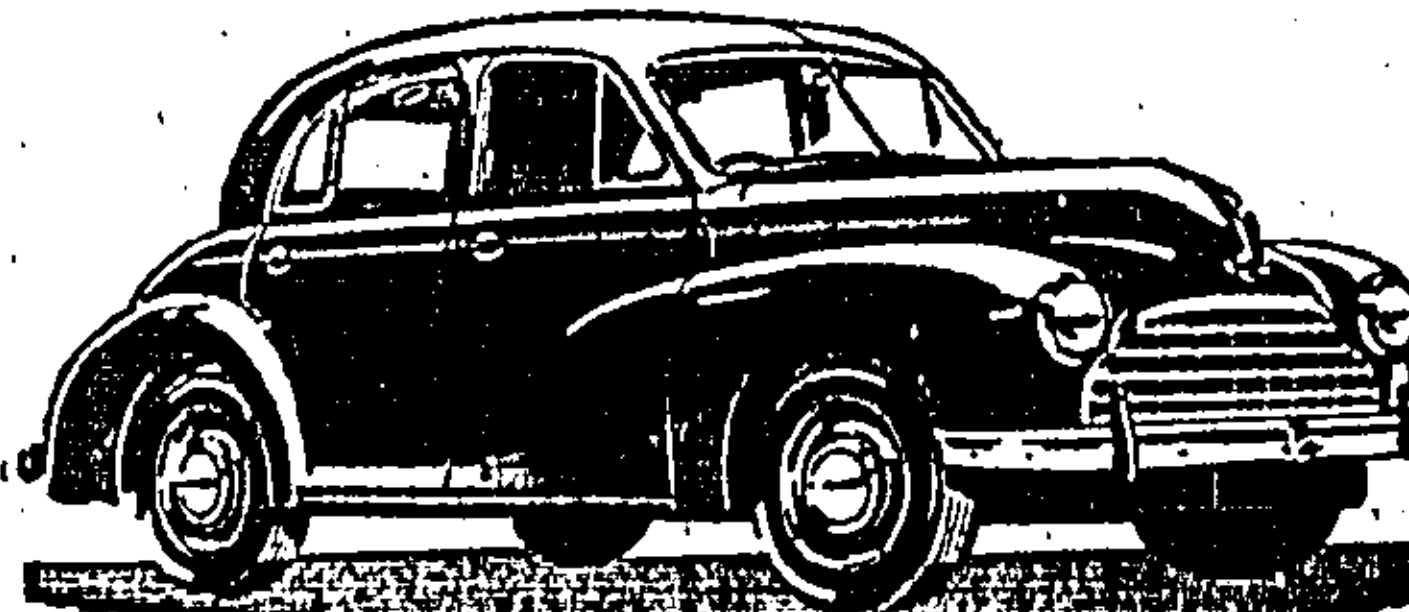
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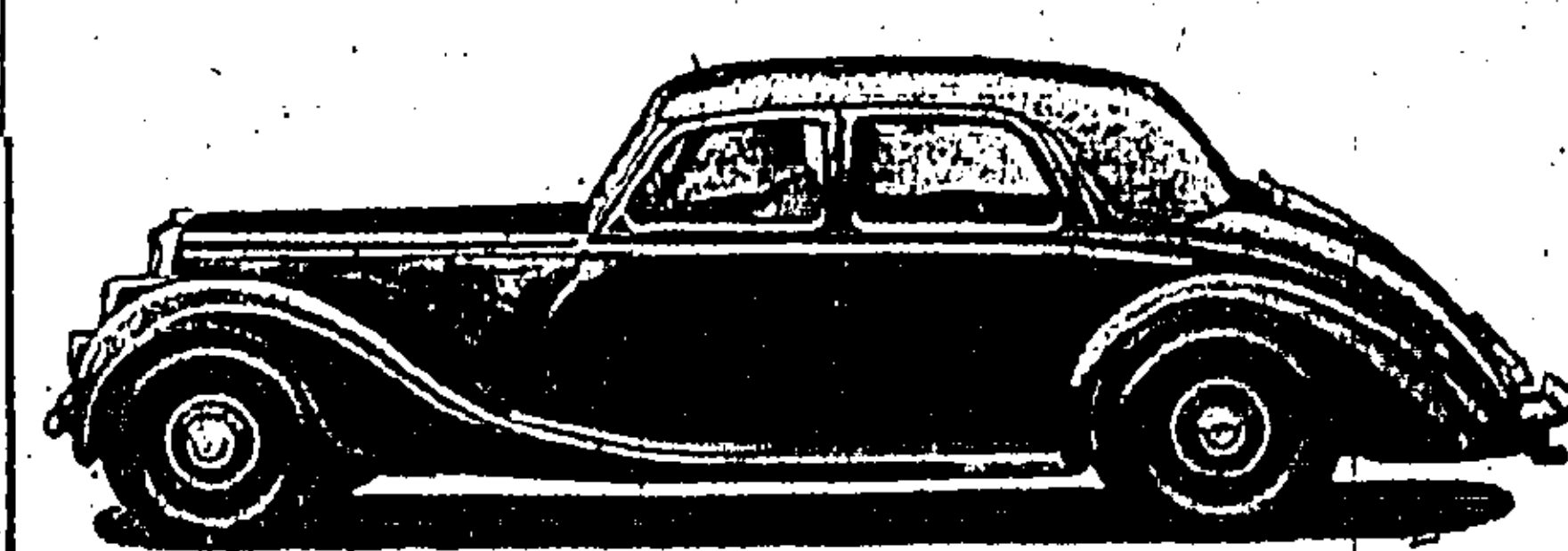
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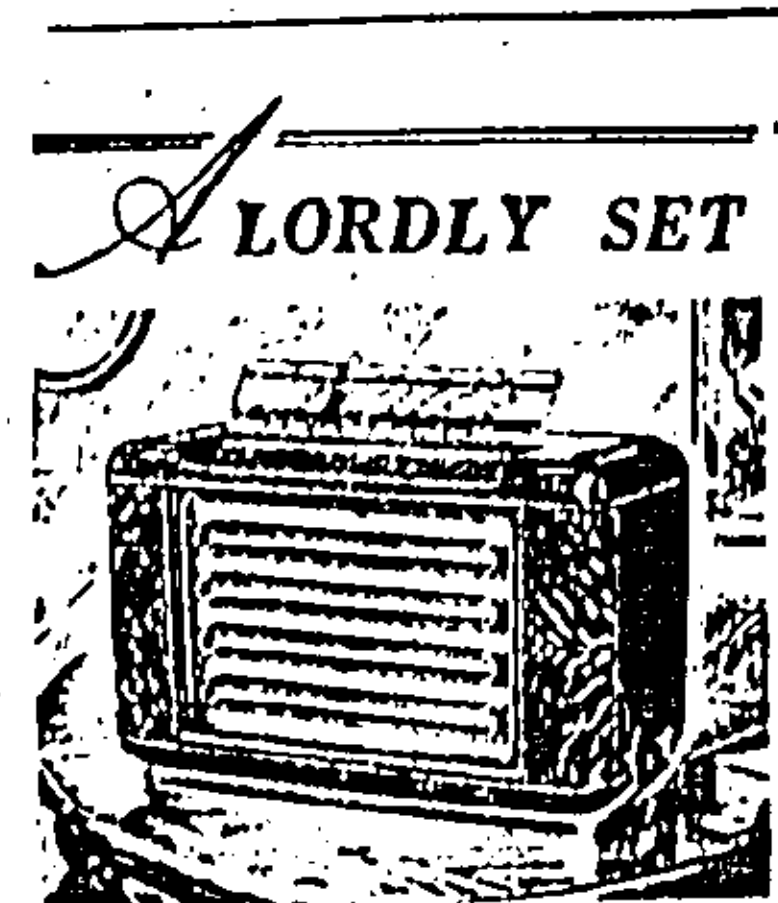
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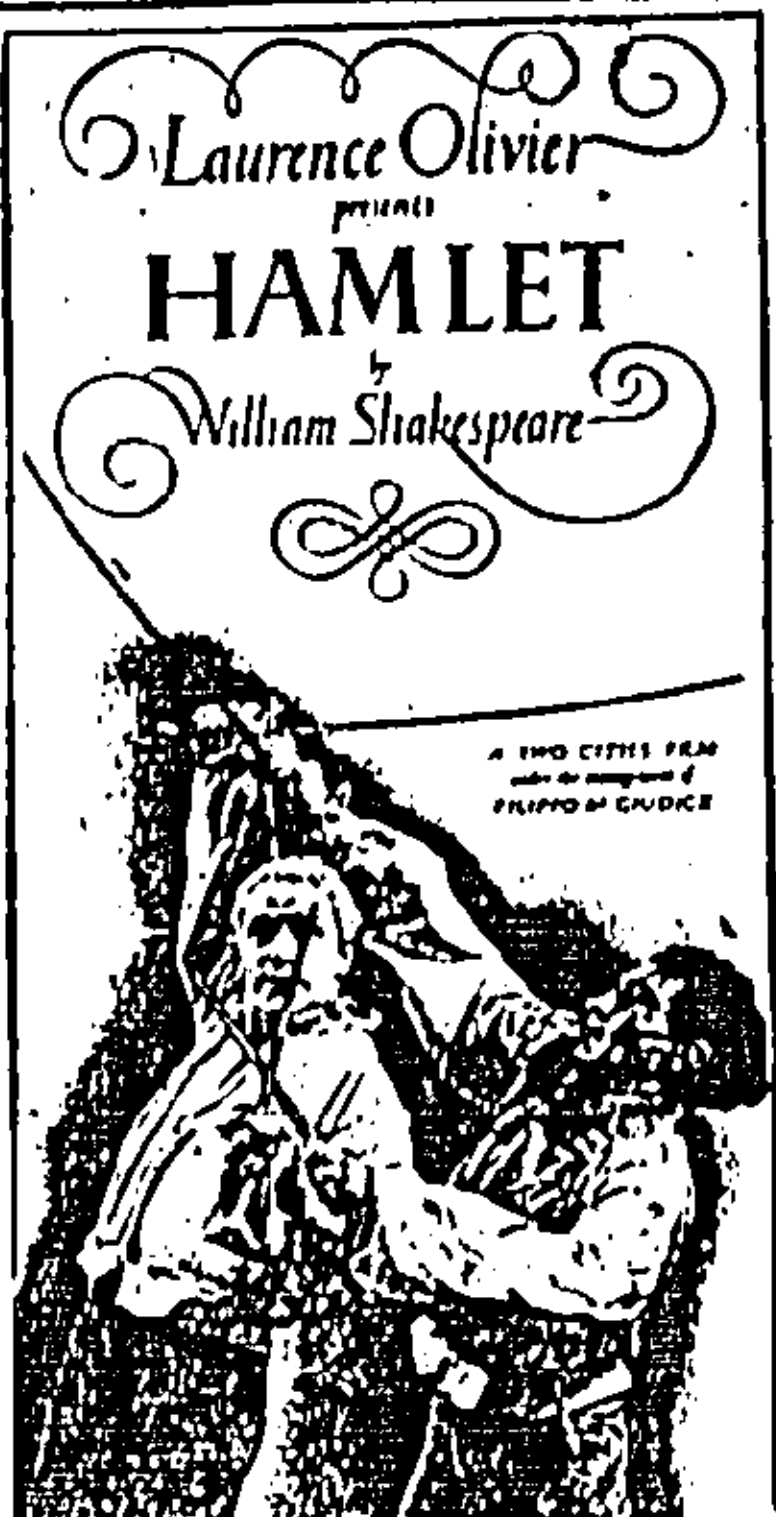
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BUNCHE URGES ISRAEL RECOGNITION BY U.N.

Paris, November 26.
A mission of Israel to the United Nations was urged today by the Acting Palestine mediator, Mr. Ralph Bunche.

He called a contemptible slander of a dead man the allegation by Slav bloc delegates that American and British representatives secretly wrote the section of the Bernadotte report suggesting the Negev Desert go to the Arabs.

Dr. Bunche also warned that the Arabs must "accept responsibility for prolonging" the Palestine dispute by refusing to negotiate with Israel, Egypt, Lebanon and Transjordan, however, once again gave notice that they would not negotiate directly with the Jews.

Dr. Bunche put a seven-point peace plan before the 58-nation Political Committee of the Assembly.

He acted after Semeon K. Tsarapkin of Russia formally submitted a resolution which observers said apparently was intended to force all UN truce observers, as well as all Arab armies, to withdraw from the Holy Land.

Tsarapkin said the Soviet recommends the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops and foreign military personnel from territory of the Jewish and Arab states in Palestine whose establishment is provided by the decision of the General Assembly a year ago.

"To Prevent War"

He said this would be a step to prevent resumption of military operations in Palestine.

Asked if the resolution would oblige foreign U.N. truce observers to leave, Tsarapkin said "Our resolution is quite clear."

There are 500 truce observers from the United States, France and Belgium in Palestine and surrounding Arab states. Last spring, Russia abstained from voting on the question of sending observers to Palestine and raised the question as to what method was being used to choose them. Russia was not invited to send observers.

British Concession
Another top development in the Palestine case was the submission by Britain of a revision of her resolution which, a spokesman said, was designed to bring closer together the British and American viewpoints.

Arms Seized In A NY Garage

New York, November 26.
Five men faced a magistrate's court in New York today on charges of possessing arms without a permit after the police had seized a motor lorry load of guns and ammunition in a New York garage.

The case was adjourned until December 8.

Four of the men were released on \$500 bail, while the fifth was released on parole in the custody of his father.

The police said the men denied knowing the nature of the crates which were covered with old clothing. They were quoted as saying they were hired by a man whose name they did not know to haul the crates from the garage to New Jersey.

The contents of the trucks included 46 Army rifles, 75 slide-guns, four machine-guns, one sub-machine-gun, a box of hand grenades and four boxes of rifle ammunition, the police said.

The persons taken into custody were identified as Bertram Koppelman, Ephraim Gelhard and his brother Ralph, all of Bound Brook, New Jersey, George Stubby of New York and Michael Demler, of New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Several months ago, the police seized a large quantity of arms reported to be destined for the Jewish forces in Israel.—Reuter.

Miraculous Escape

Los Angeles, November 25.
A Trans-World Airlines Constellation today burst into flames when landing at the municipal airport. The 18 passengers and five crew members scrambled to safety through the emergency door. All 23 persons in the plane miraculously escaped with only bruises and sprains, although the big four-engine transport was totally destroyed.

The Civil Aeronautics Board in Washington ordered an immediate investigation.

—United Press.

ARABS STEAL UN TRANSPORT

Jerusalem, November 25.
Two United Nations jeeps have recently been stolen by armed Arabs who forced unarmed observers out of their jeep and fired on them, United Nations circles said today.

The observers escaped and the Arabs drove the jeep away. The second jeep was stolen in the Arab sector of Jerusalem.—Reuter.

RAF RUN AIRLIFT OUT OF BERLIN

Berlin, November 26.

British and American authorities today announced plans for the evacuation by air of about 1,500 German hospital patients.

They will be taken to the West of Germany to spare them the hardship of a blockade winter.

Approximately 4,000 children have already been flown out in RAF night planes and 8,000 to 10,000 are waiting to go.

The first organised evacuation of the sick will begin on December 2, and about 40 or 50 will be taken every other day as weather permits. Tuberculosis patients and other chronically illing have priority. German welfare authorities are registering applicants.

About 100 sick have already been flown out over the Russian blockade by commercial airlines on military government priority passes.

Evacuees are sent to hospitals in the British and American occupation zones and others to the homes of relatives there.

Another large group of children was evacuated today by RAF Sunderland flying boats. The British can fly out up to 480 per day. The children will remain in the West as long as the blockade lasts.—Associated Press.

Labour Girds Its Loins For General Elections

London, November 25.

Plans to strengthen the Labour Party campaigning machine in preparation for the next general election are being developed by the National Executive Committee of the Party.

The plans are understood to be based on the expectation of a general election in June, 1950.

It is believed that the new efforts have been made more active by the result of the recent Parliamentary by-election at Edmonton, London, where the Government's majority fell by over 15,000 votes. The result has seriously perturbed many members of the Party.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Herbert Morrison, the Government leader in the House of Commons and generally acknowledged as the party boss, has spoken plainly to the Party hierarchy on the task before Labour if it is to gain a new victory in 1950.

An early step in the rallying of Labour forces in the constituencies will be the calling of a

series of regional conferences, including two exclusively for women.

These are intended to focus the political issues for the electors in anticipation of municipal elections which are to be held next April and May.

Three Aims

The three main Labour Party aims for the local Government elections are:

1.—A record number of candidates.

2.—A labour poll, and

3.—The gaining of additional seats to bring local representation more into conformity with the party's national political strength.

Labour has been keeping close watch on the campaign which the Conservative Opposition has been making to secure membership in the constituencies and upon the evident reflection of this activity in recent Parliamentary and local by-election results.

Labour leaders recognise that the party cannot afford to assume its ability to ride home on its record in 1950. Hard campaigning may be required to retrieve political ground lost since the Government assumed office three years ago.

Some Concern

There is concern among sections of Labour members of the apparent slowness of some local party organisations to appreciate the effort that may be necessary to keep what has been won.

Both Labourites and Conservatives recognise that there is no effective substitute for the system of door-to-door solicitation of votes as a means of arousing electoral interest and enthusiasm.

Eight committees of the Labour National Executive and various specialised groups elsewhere are working on various policy suggestions for the party's second five-year plan. The Labour Party's Annual

Death Leap From Court Window

Bath, November 25.

Charles Norman Hain, aged 30, lorry driver, today eluded the custody of two warders and dived through a window of the Bath Juvenile Court to his death.

He fell 50 feet to the courtyard.

Hain, who was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment for bigamy a few months ago at Wells Assizes, had been brought to court between two warders in connection with an adoption order relating to his children.

As the magistrates announced the order against one child, Hain broke from the warders and hurled himself through the window.

Warders grasped his clothing but were not able to stop him from falling.

While awaiting trial for bigamy, Hain had saved the life of a five-year-old child by diving into the River Avon.—Reuter.

VERY GRATEFUL

Vienna, November 25.

Dr. Karl Gruber, the Austrian Foreign Minister, told a press conference that Austria's relations with Mexico were very friendly. "Mexico is the only country which protested against the Anschluss (when German troops marched in on March 12, 1938) and Hitler annexed Austria."

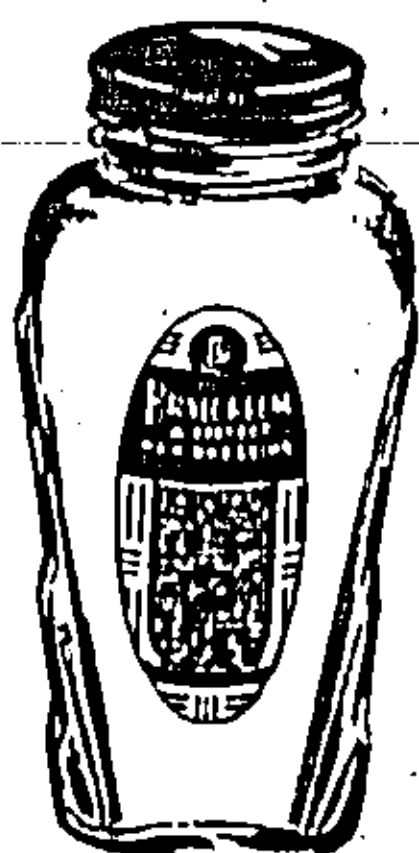
"We are therefore very grateful," he said. Dr. Gruber added that Austria had decided to open a Legation in Mexico during the present financial year but the difficulty was to find the foreign currency for the purpose.—Reuter.

Conference, which will be held next May, is the final arbiter of policy, and the programme on which the Party will fight the next general election should emerge within a few months of its meeting.—Reuter.

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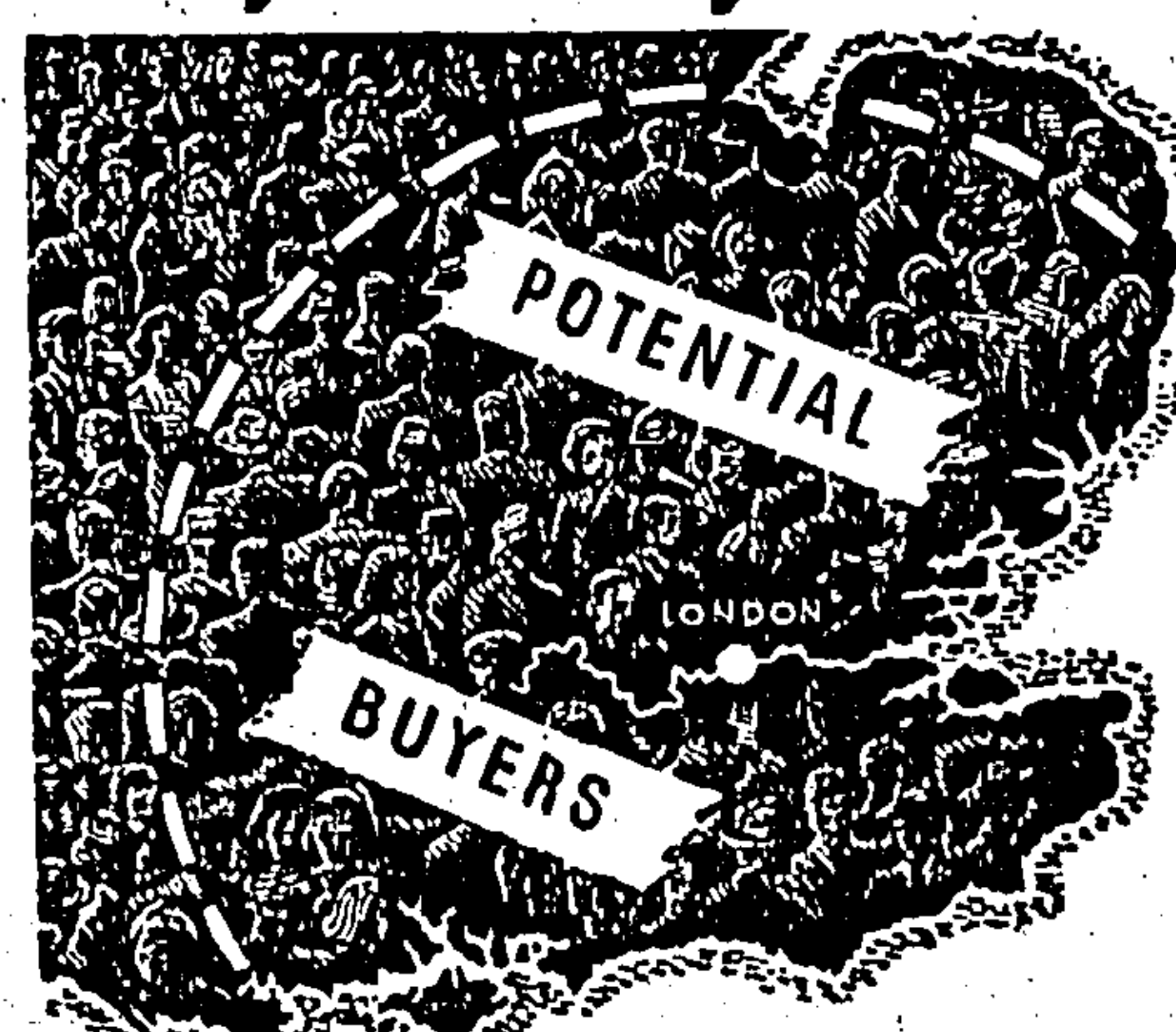
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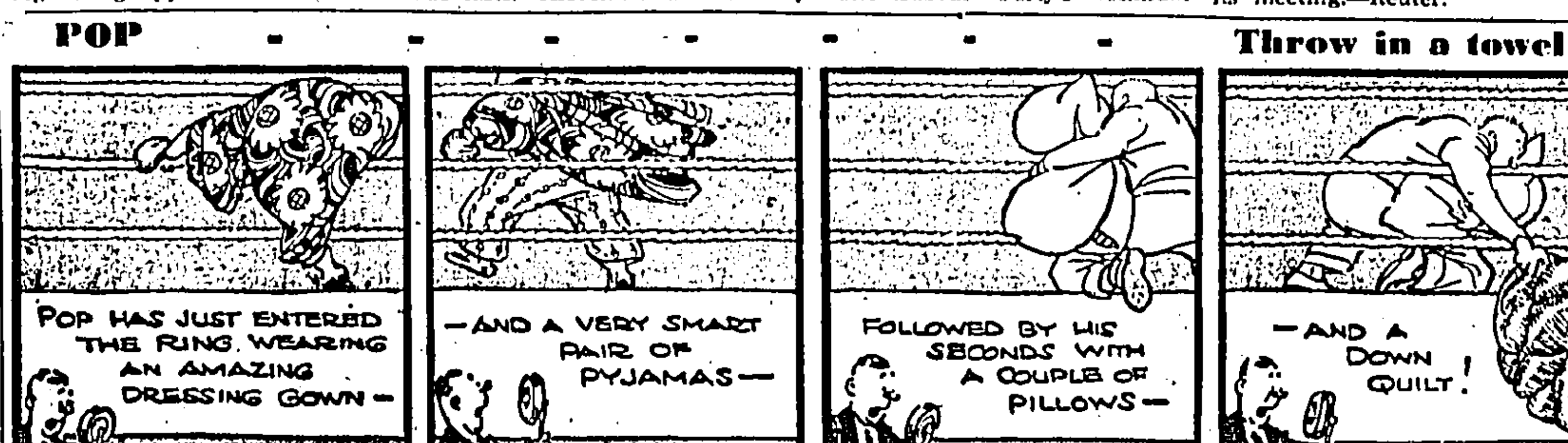
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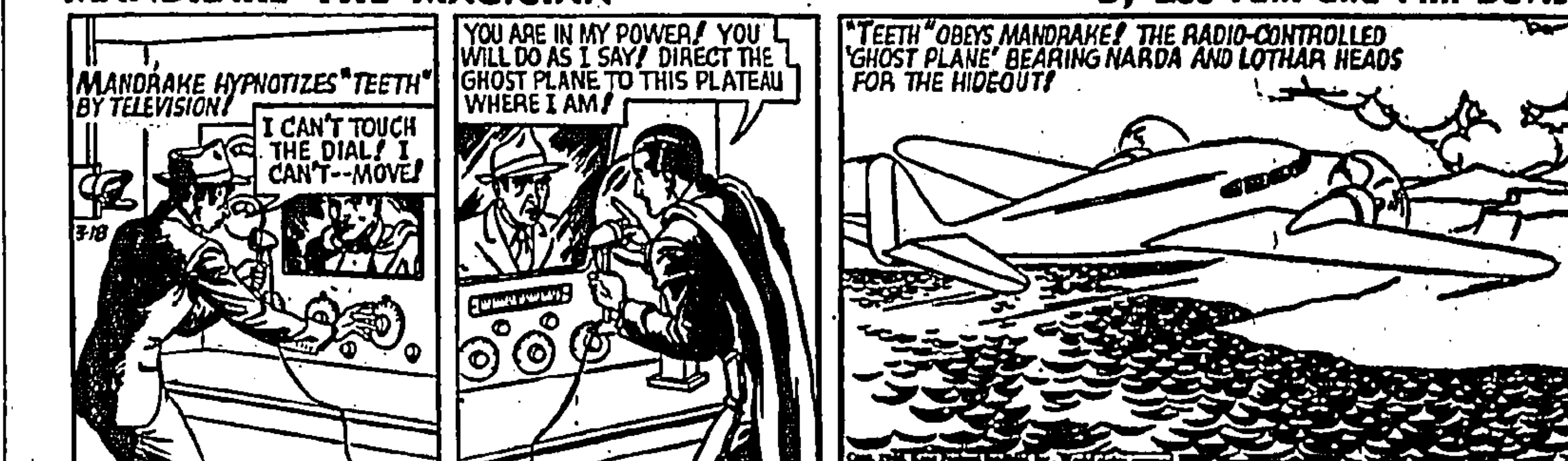
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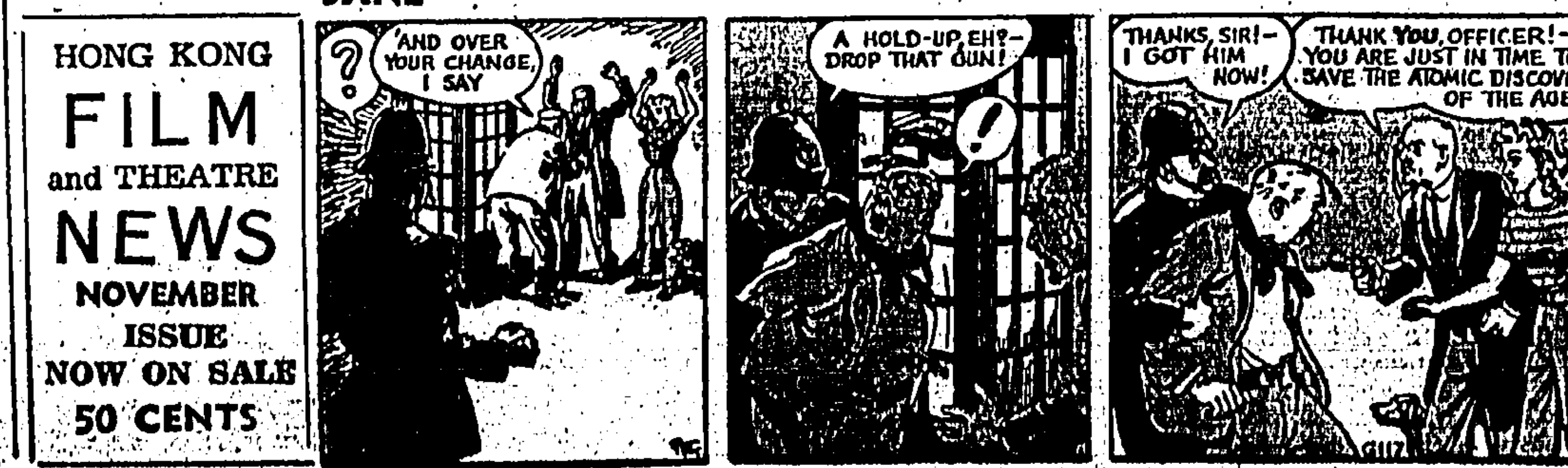
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SURPRISE WITNESS APPEARS AT LONDON BRIBE TRIBUNAL

London, November 25.

A surprise witness today at the resumed hearing of the Tribunal probing alleged corruption in Government circles was the President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Harold Wilson.

Mr. Wilson said that when he first heard of the accusations, he gave orders that the police should be told.

Mr. Wilson also said that he found Mr. John Belcher, his Parliamentary Secretary, to be a very hard-working Minister.

When he, Mr. Wilson, heard about the allegations, Mr. Belcher gave him a fairly full account of his first meeting and subsequent dealings with Sidney Stanley.

Referring to earlier evidence that Mr. Belcher had dropped a prosecution against the Sherman football pool against the advice of the Permanent Secretary to the Board of Trade, counsel asked: "Do you agree that this was unusual?"

Mr. Wilson: "I think it was unusual but that sort of thing might easily happen, especially during that week when we were under heavy pressure." A seaside hotel-keeper, George Ringham, of Cliftonville, said that during the Labour Party Conference at nearby Margate last year, Sidney Stanley booked rooms for an important member of the Government.

The member of the Government turned out to be Mr. Belcher, who arrived with his wife, his children and his mother. At the end of the first week, Stanley called and asked for the bill, which was for £48. He subsequently paid it by cheque.

£15 For Sherry

During the second week of the Belcher's stay, Stanley did not turn up for an appointment with the Belchers and witness never saw him again.

The second week's bill amounted to £63. Over £15 of it was for sherry. There had been some entertaining, Ringham said. He handed the bill to Mr. Belcher who said: "I will send you this next week."

Witness did not reply and Mr. Belcher later said: "Well, I will give you a cheque for it. Probably I shall see Mr. Stanley next week when I return."

Leslie Courtney Brown, senior Partner of a Margate garage and taxi hire business, said that one Saturday he had driven Stanley back from a greyhound racing meeting. Mrs. Stanley was with him in the back of the car and witness heard Stanley mention many times the name of Mr. Belcher and somebody he called the President of the Bank of England.

Stanley said he was fed up with giving money to people when he knew perfectly well he would never get it back.

Whisky Casks

Asked if he knew who Stanley meant by the President of the Bank of England, Brown said the reference was to Mr. George Gilson, a director of the bank.

Miss Jean Elliot, said that early this year, Mr. Belcher's private secretary, J.R. Cross, telephoned her to say that casks had arrived from abroad for the whisky distilling firm of Bloch Brothers, Glasgow.

A licence for their import had not been obtained. Cross added that Mr. Belcher knew Sir Maurice Bloch and if the licence could be properly granted he would be glad. It was left entirely to witness to decide on the merits of the case.

The licence was granted but no pressure was brought to bear on her.

Sir Maurice Bloch, managing director of Bloch Brothers, told the Tribunal that he first met Mr. Belcher at a dinner at the end of June, 1947.

Gifts Of Wine

Mr. Belcher had told him sherry was the only drink that agreed with him. Witness pro-

posed to send him some and had later despatched six bottles.

Four months after, he sent Mr. Belcher a case of sherry, and sometime later he had sent Mr. Belcher a milked case of sherry and burgundy.

Sir Maurice said he had sent these gifts because he was chairman of the Refugee Appeal Committee in Glasgow and thought that Mr. Belcher would be an attractive new speaker for their annual Appeal.

Sir Maurice denied that he was trying to influence his relationship with the Board of Trade because two years of correspondence about the import of casks had proved futile.

Mr. Belcher had called at witness' office last summer and had seen two very attractive packages of a special whisky for export. He said: "We should have some of this in London."

Sir Maurice had sent him six

bottles of a special blend because of that conversation. A letter from Sir Maurice to Mr. Belcher was read, saying that six bottles of sherry had been sent and that he would be glad to forward further quantities.

Never Sent Bill

Counsel: "That is to a man you had never met before and you were offering to send him further supplies. Was it to make your relations easier with a Minister of the Crown?"

Sir Maurice repeated that he has been thinking all along of how Mr. Belcher could help the Refugee Appeal. Answering the Tribunal Chairman, Justice Lynskey, Sir Maurice said Mr. Belcher had never spoken for the Appeal.

Other letters were read, including one from Mr. Belcher which said "na to your suggestion that you should send further quantities, this would be most welcome but I could not possibly trespass on your hospitality to such an extent. If, however, you will allow me to defray the cost I will be happy to do so."

Sir Maurice said he had never sent in a bill for the liquor sent to Mr. Belcher. The various amounts sent were his personal gifts. Sir Maurice added he had never made any hints to any other Ministers or persons in Government departments.

The inquiry was adjourned until tomorrow.—Reuter.

Venezuela Returning To Normal

Caracas, November 26.

Venezuela's military forces, which seized control of the country on Wednesday in a swift and bloodless coup, announced today that quiet prevailed throughout the nation.

Business in the capital was resumed normally although the streets are still patrolled by troops.

Romulo Gallegos, the deposed constitutional President, remained in his home under protective custody and a number of other leaders were removed from the Government and put under arrest.

The Ministry of Defence categorically denied reports that a strike is underway in the Maracaibo oil fields. The Ministry's press office said that the reports were due to the tense situation when the Army took control on Wednesday. The Maracaibo oil companies are closed but normal operations are expected to be resumed shortly.

The composition of the new Government to succeed the military junta is still undecided but the armed forces are expected to fashion one composed of the representatives of the various political groups.—Associated Press.

SHIP ON FIRE

London, November 25.

The 5,714 tons Swedish steamer Snaholm, sailing from Puerto Tarance to Scandinavia, caught fire off Windmill Point, Montreal, according to a message received here today by Lloyds Shipping Agency.

The vessel has not been damaged and the cargo damage is negligible, the message added.

The ship's port of registry is Gothenburg.—Reuter.

cannot honestly vote for the admission of Ceylon when we still have such important questions as statehood unclassified," added Mr. Vyshinsky.—Reuter.

SOVIET ALLOWS JEWS TO LEAVE EUROPE

Prague, November 25.

A check of Eastern capitals today revealed that Jews were being permitted to emigrate freely to Israel from all countries in the Soviet Zone.

Reports indicated that at least 5,000 Jews from each of six Eastern European countries would leave by the end of this year and the final total might run to well over 50,000.

Meanwhile, the people's democracies nearly choked off non-Jewish emigration. Would-be travellers were being subjected to weeks of red tape and even Communists were frequently denied passports.

However, throughout Eastern Europe, Jewish welfare and legation officials reported that the governments were readily issuing passports to Jewish emigrants, letting them take all or most of their belongings and helping them with transport, with only a few hitches due to the magnitude of the job.

The officials added that youths of military age were included in all transports from Eastern Europe and frequently made up most of the movement.—United Press.

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P. & O. B. I. & E. & A. BILLS OF LADING

Messrs. Gossard & Douglas will attend at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays within the free storage period to survey damaged cargo, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present. Unless consignees representatives are present at the Survey no claims can thereafter be admitted.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.

Agents:—

P. & O. S. N. Co.
B. I. S. N. Co., Ltd.
E. & A. S.S. Co., Ltd.

AUSTRALIA CHINA LINE LTD.

The s.s. "BALUCHISTAN"

LOADS HONG KONG 7th DECEMBER

FOR

MANILA

RABAU AND LAE

BRISBANE, SYDNEY,

MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE

WITH

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO

NEW ZEALAND & FIJI ISLANDS PORTS

Sails 7th December

For further particulars please apply

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

Freight Dept.

Padder Street

Passages Dept.

6-8, Chater Rd.

Phone 30311

Subject to alteration without notice

P&O B.I.E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

S.S. "TREVANION" due 15th Dec. from London & Continent via Straits.

S.S. "SOUDAN" due 21st Dec. from Japan & Shanghai

S.S. "SURAT" due 2nd Jan. from London via Straits.

S.S. "TREVANION" due 5th Jan. from Shanghai & Japan.

S.S. "CANTON" due 17th Jan. from London, Bombay & Straits.

S.S. "SURAT" due 21st Jan. from Straits, Colombo, Bombay & London.

S.S. "TREVANION" due early Feb. from London & Continent via Straits.

S.S. "CARTHAGE" due 14th Feb. from London, Bombay, & Straits.

S.S. "SOMALI" due 14th Feb. from Straits, Colombo, Bombay & London.

S.S. "CORFU" due 8th Mar. from London, Bombay & Straits.

S.S. "SIRDIHANA" due 4th Jan. from Calcutta via Rangoon & Straits.

S.S. "SHIRALA" due 17th Jan. from Calcutta via Rangoon & Straits.

S.S. "SIRDIHANA" due 23rd Jan. from Japan, Shanghai & Amoy.

S.S. "SHIRALA" due 9th Feb. from Japan & Amoy.

S.S. "EASTERN" due 10th Dec. from Japan.

S.S. "NELLORE" due 10th Dec. for Shanghai & Japan.

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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"TASMAN" In port	to Manila, Amoy 27th November, to Javaports & Macassar, 8th December.
"TJIBADAR" from Macassar & Javaports 27th November.	to Javaports & Macassar, 2nd February.
"TJITALENGKA" from Macassar & Javaports 11th Dec.	to Javaports & Macassar, 23rd Dec.

ASIA-AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"TJIKAMPEK" from Japan & Shanghai 10th Dec.	to South Africa & South America 15th December.
"TEGELBERG" from South America & South Africa 2nd Dec.	to South Africa & South America 14th January.
"RIJN" from South America & South Africa 12th January.	to South Africa & South America 15th February.
"STRAAT MALAKKA" from South America & South Africa 22nd February.	to South Africa & South America 15th March.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L to Dar-El-Salaam, Mombasa, Zanzibar accepted on all sailings.

SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"VAN RIEMSDIJK" In port	to Straits & B. Dec. 4th, to Singapore, 8th December.
"TASMAN" from Amoy 6th December	to Singapore, 8th December.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Arrivals	Departures
"MOLEKERK" from Europe 3rd Dec.	to Shanghai, Japan 10th December, to Europe via Manila & Straits.
"MEERKERK" from Europe early Jan.	to Europe via Manila & Straits, Mid-January.
"RIJN" from Europe End January.	to Europe via Manila & Straits, 3rd February.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L accepted to Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

Agents: SILVER LINE LTD.

Arrivals	Departures
"SILVERBRIAR" from U.S. via Pacific Coast 17th December.	to U.S. via Atlantic ports 18th December.

Office Address: King's Building, Phones: 28015, 28016 & 28017
Chinese Agents: 82, Connaught Rd., Tel. 31196 & 21533

DE LA RAMA LINES

EXPRESS CARGO LINER SERVICES
TO AND FROM PACIFIC & ATLANTIC COASTS

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC COAST VIA TACOMA

m.v. "DONA NATI"	19th Dec.
m.v. "DONA ANICETA"	22nd Jan.
m.v. "TONGHAI"	27th Jan.

LOADING FOR U.S. ATLANTIC COAST VIA LOS ANGELES

m.v. "DONA NATI"	21st Dec.
m.v. "BENARES"	8th Jan.
m.v. "DONA ANICETA"	25th Jan.

THE DE LA RAMA STEAMSHIP CO., INC.

(Incorporated in the Philippines)
MARINA HOUSE CHINESE SHIPPING OFFICE
Tels. 23676-22675 Tels. 23738-20153

THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD.

OF COPENHAGEN

S.S. "NIKOBAR"

Loading 29th/30th November

for

ADEN, PORT SAID, TANGIER, CASABLANCA, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM, HAMBURG, OSLO, GOTHENBURG, COPENHAGEN & Gdynia

THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD.

Queen's Bldg., 2nd floor. Tel. 34111 & 34112

CHINA MERCHANTS S.M. CO.

15 Connaught Road West

Telephone 31033

SAILINGS

S.S. "HAI TAI"	Haiphong	Nov. 27
S.S. "HAI HSIA"	Singapore	Nov. 27
S.S. "HAI SIU"	Bangkok	Nov. 27
S.S. "HAI FEI"	Shanghai	Dec. 3

(With Passenger Accommodation)

Cargo for Teling-Tao, Hankow & Tientsin acceptable on through bills of lading.

For full particulars please apply to the above.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

MYSTERY SURROUNDS SUPPLIES OF GOLD IN THE FREE MARKET

London, November 25.

The Evening Standard City Editor writes: The mystery surrounding the free gold markets which are now flourishing in many parts of the world is the source of this gold.

Experts estimate that the world turnover in free gold is six to seven million ounces a year, with China about three and a half and India two millions.

Hong Kong Stock Exchange

The market during the past week has created a record for the minimum of business reported. The deals that have passed have been based on a keen bargaining scale. With the nervousness surrounding the market it is idle to comment on quotations. Late, Crawford have declared an interim dividend of \$1 and a bonus of \$1 per share both free of tax.

SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"VAN RIEMSDIJK" In port	to Straits & B. Dec. 4th, to Singapore, 8th December.
"TASMAN" from Amoy 6th December	to Singapore, 8th December.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Arrivals	Departures
"MOLEKERK" from Europe 3rd Dec.	to Shanghai, Japan 10th December, to Europe via Manila & Straits.
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m.v. "BENARES"	8th Jan.
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CHINA MERCHANTS S.M. CO.

15 Connaught Road West

Telephone 31033

SAILINGS

S.S. "HAI TAI"	Haiphong	Nov. 27
S.S. "HAI HSIA"	Singapore	Nov. 27
S.S. "HAI SIU"	Bangkok	Nov. 27
S.S. "HAI FEI"	Shanghai	Dec. 3

(With Passenger Accommodation)

Cargo for Teling-Tao, Hankow & Tientsin acceptable on through bills of lading.

For full particulars please apply to the above.

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S.S. "HAI HSIA"	Singapore	Nov. 27
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MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

ARRIVALS FROM		
S.S. "MANDO"	Europe via Saigon	on or about 26th Nov.
S.S. "ST. MICHEL"	Europe via Hongkong	on or about 26th Nov.
S.S. "CHAMPOLLION"	Europe via Saigon	on or about 26th Nov.
S.S. "GRONLAND"	Europe via Saigon	on or about 26th Nov.
SAILING TO		
S.S. "ST. MICHEL"	Salon via Hongkong	on or about 1st Dec.
S.S. "CHAMPOLLION"	Shanghai	on or about 1st Dec.
S.S. "GRONLAND"	Marcelle via Saigon	on or about 21st Dec.
S.S. "CHAMPOLLION"	Marcelle via Saigon	on or about 21st Dec.

For Passage and Freight Apply To:-

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
 Queen's Building, Tel. 26651 (three lines)


Agents: CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO		
"FENGTEEN"	Singapore & Penang	4 p.m. 27th Nov.
"HUNAN"	Tientsin	7 a.m. 28th Nov.
"HAIYANG"	Swatow	10 a.m. 28th Nov.
"FOYANG"	Swatow, Hongkong, Saigon	noon 28th Nov.
"SZECHUEN"	Singapore, Malacca, Penang, & Batavia	4 p.m. 30th Nov.
"HAIYANG"	Takao, Yokohama, Nagoya & Kobe	4 p.m. 30th Nov.
"SZECHUEN"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 30th Nov.
"HAIYANG"	Amoy, Fuzhou & (Tientsin?)	10 a.m. 30th Nov.
"HAIYANG"	Amoy, Fuzhou & (Tientsin?)	4 p.m. 30th Nov.
"SZECHUEN"	Amoy, Fuzhou & (Tientsin?)	1st Dec.
"HAIYANG"	Singapore, Palembang, Sibiu & Miti	5th Dec.
"SZECHUEN"	Swatow, Amoy & Fuzhou	3 p.m. 5th Dec.
"HAIYANG"	Japan	11th Dec.

ARRIVALS FROM		
"SZECHUEN"	Shanghai & Keelung	p.m. 27th Nov.
"HAIYANG"	Tientsin & Pusan	8 p.m. 27th Nov.
"SZECHUEN"	Shanghai	p.m. 28th Nov.
"HAIYANG"	Singapore, Saigon & Hongkong	2nd Dec.
"SZECHUEN"	Bangkok, Saigon & Swatow	7th Dec.

RIVER SERVICE		
"TATSHAN"	Sails for Canton 7 p.m. 28th Nov.	
"WUSHEI"	Arrives from Canton 7.30 a.m. 29th Nov.	
"WUSHEI"	Sails for Macao 2.30 p.m. daily except Sundays.	
"WUSHEI"	Arrives from Macao 6.30 a.m. on Tuesdays, to Saturdays & 5.45 p.m. on Sundays.	

Agents: BLUE FUNNEL LINE		
U.K. SERVICE		
Arrivals from		
"SARAPEDON"	U.K. via Straits	29th Nov.
"SARAPEDON"	U.K. via Straits	1st Dec.
"SARAPEDON"	U.K. via Straits	3rd Dec.
"SARAPEDON"	U.K. via Straits	15th Dec.
"SARAPEDON"	U.K. via Straits	22nd Dec.
Sailings to		
"SARAPEDON"	Shanghai & Japan	5th Dec.
"SARAPEDON"	Shanghai	7th Dec.
"SARAPEDON"	Liverpool & Glasgow via Port Said	18th Dec.
"SARAPEDON"	U.K. via Straits	1st week Jan.

NEW YORK SERVICE		
Arrivals from		
"AGAMEMNON"	U.S.A. via Manila	In port
"AGAMEMNON"	U.S.A. via Manila & Shanghai	21st Dec.
Sailings to		
"AGAMEMNON"	Hull, Boston & New York via Straits & Suez	6th Dec.

Agents: Australian-Oriental Line, Ltd.		
Sailings to		
"CHANGTE"	Sydney Melbourne & Brisbane	noon 3rd Dec.
Arrivals from		
"CHANGTE"	Japan	30th Nov.
"CHANGTE"	Australia & Manila	about 4th week Dec.
"CHANGTE"	Australia	about 4th week Dec.

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